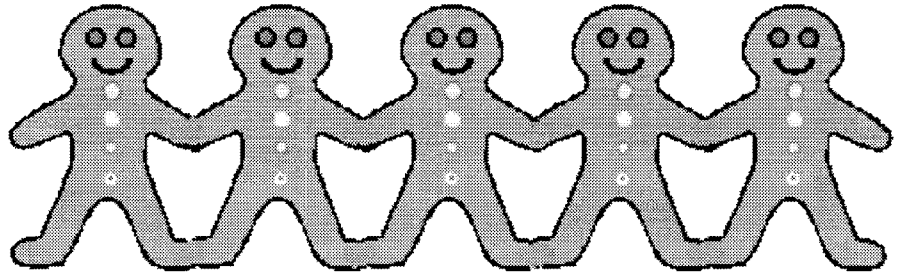# Gingerbread Cookies

Ingredients:

- 2/3 cup shortening
- 1/2 cup brown sugar, packed
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- 1/4 tsp ground cloves
- 2 tsp ground ginger
- pinch salt
- 3/4 cup molasses
- 1 egg
- 3 cups flour
- 1/2 tsp baking powder
- 1 tsp baking soda

Directions:

1. Collect all of the ingredients above and bring them to your work area along with 2 bowls for mixing, a measuring cup, measuring spoons, a tablespoon, a wooden spoon, an electric mixer, a cookie sheet, oven mitts and a spatula.
2. Use an electric mixer on medium speed to cream together the first 6 ingredients.
3. Add the egg and mix.
4. Add molasses and mix again.
5. Combine flour, baking powder and baking soda in a separate bowl.
6. Add the flour mixture to the creamed mixture about 1/4 cup at a time and stir until well blended.
7. Cover with saran wrap and chill for 1 hour.
8. Preheat oven to 375 F.
9. Roll out dough 1/4 at a time to 1/8" thickness or slightly thicker on a lightly floured board.
10. Cut with a cookie cutter and transfer to a non-stick cookie sheet.
11. Repeat with remaining dough. Before baking, decorate with raisins as you like.
12. Place in oven for 8 - 10 minutes.
13. While the cookies are baking, tidy your work area.
14. Cool on a wire rack
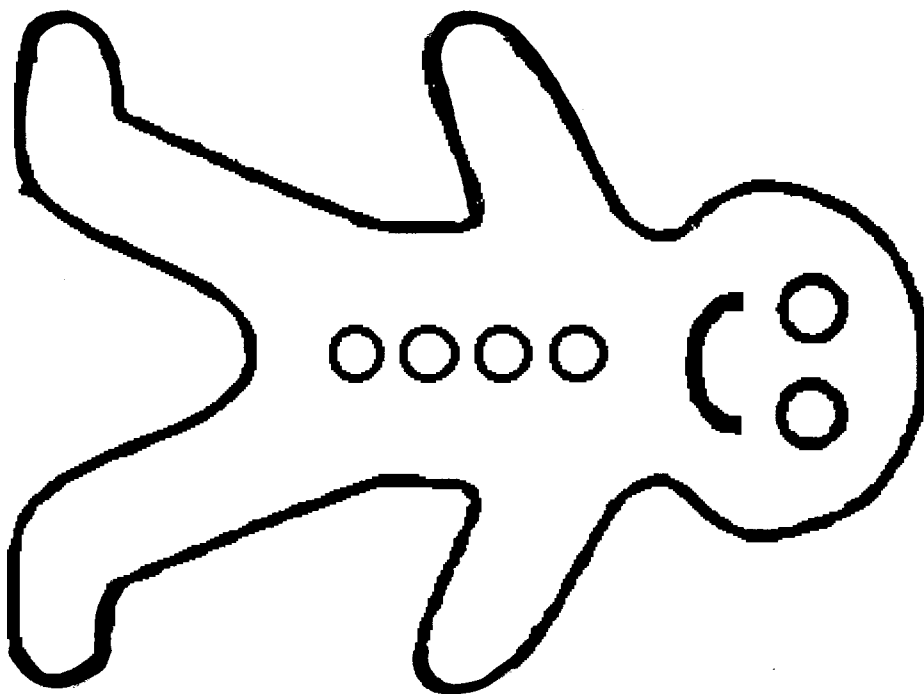15. Decorate with icing, m&m's, chocolate chips or any other items you wish.

Fold and Cut Gingerbread Man (Woman) Chains

- Cut the bottom off a paper bag and slit up one size. This will give you a very long piece of brown paper (you could use a regular piece of paper, but your chain won't be as long).

- Cut a 5 inch wide strip out of the paper (as long as you can make it) and accordian fold it (back and forth, back and forth). Make the folds the width or a bit less than the template pieces.

- Trace the template piece onto the top fold.

- Cut out (don't cut the ends of arms or feet or your chain will fall apart!)

- Unfold your chain and decorate with markers, paints, wiggly eyes, sequins, bits of lace, wool and ribbon or anything else you have on hand.
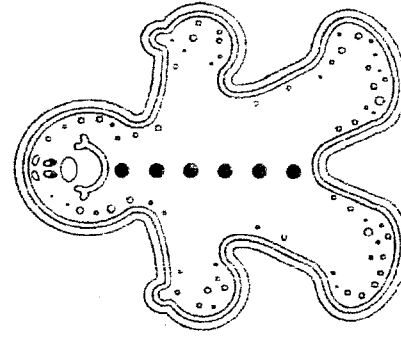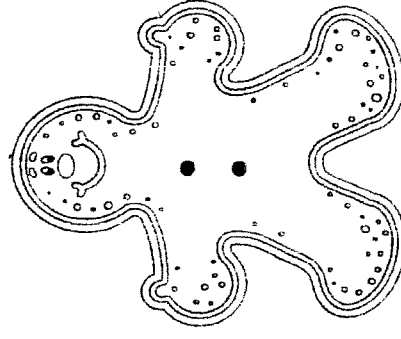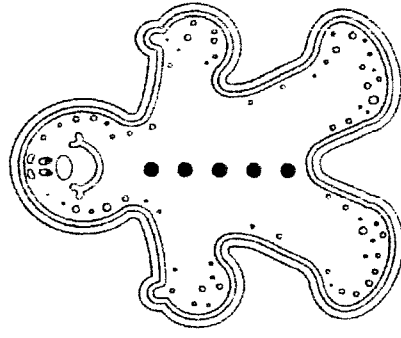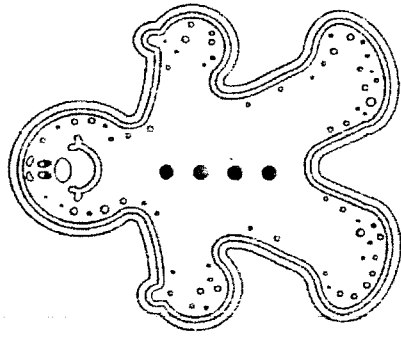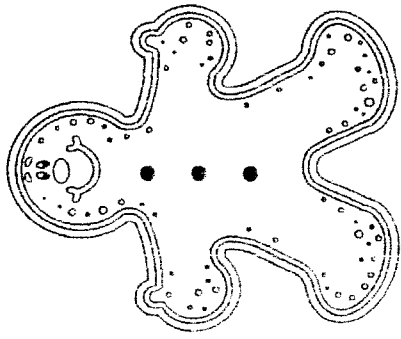
Templates:

- Close the template window after printing to return to this screen.

- Set page margins to zero if you have trouble fitting the template on one page (FILE, PAGE SETUP or FILE, PRINTER SETUP in most browsers).
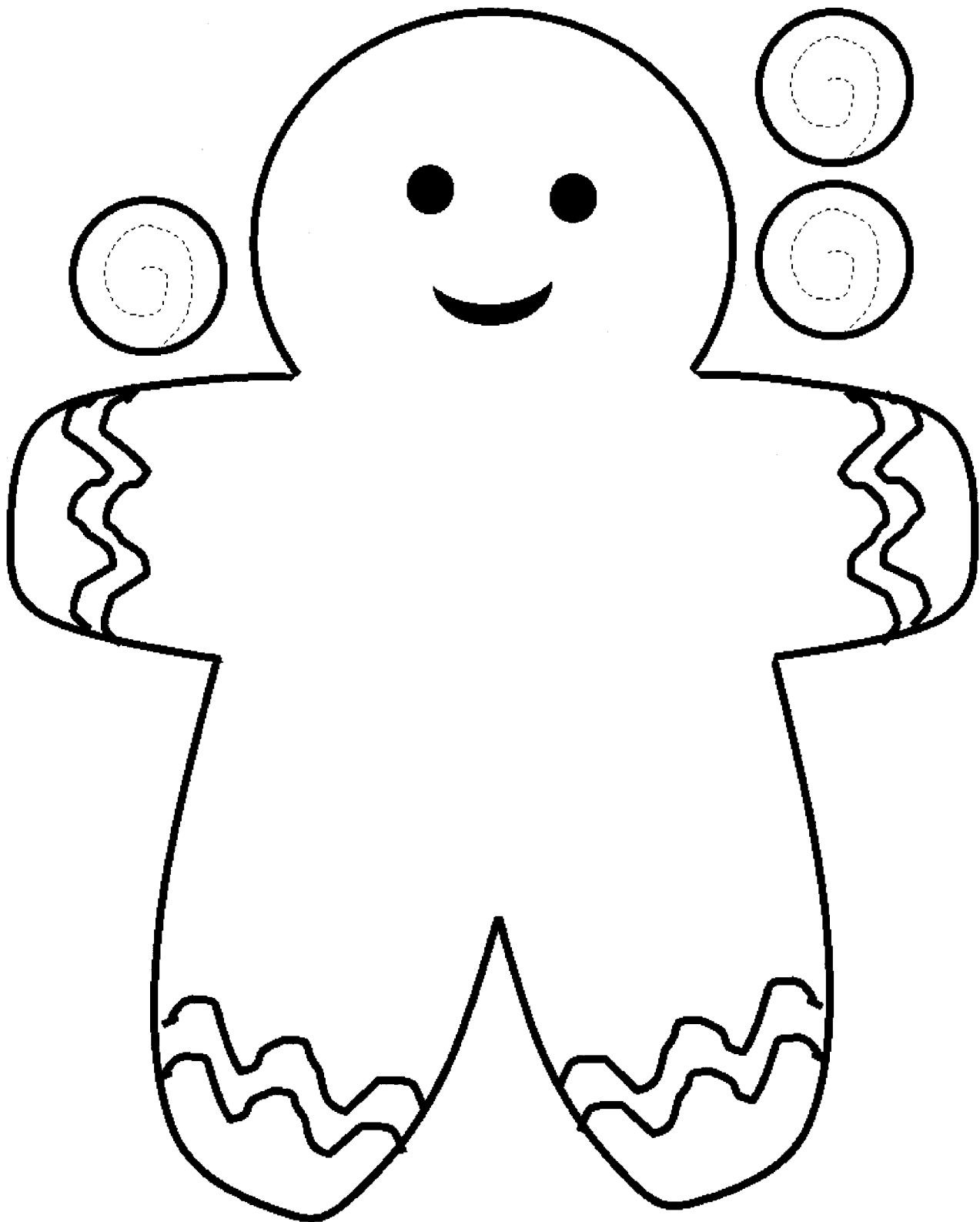
Counting Buttons

Name _____

6

2

5

3

4

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