

»» Food Labeling for Packaged Food

Packaged food must be labeled. Food is packaged if the food establishment bottles, cans, cartons, wraps or bags the product and makes it available for self-service. The label on a food package tells consumers exactly what is inside the package. Food package label information must be written in English. There are five parts of a food label:

- Identity (name of food)
- Net Quantity of Contents
- Ingredient List, including Major Food Allergens
- Business Name and Address
- Nutrition Facts

Principal Display Panel (PDP)

The principal display panel (PDP) is the front of the package and is easily seen by the consumer at the time of purchase. Include the identity and the net quantity of contents on the PDP.

Identity

The identity is the truthful common or usual name of the product. Providing a brand name is voluntary.

- Use a name that is not misleading.
- Use large, bold type.
- Print the name in the middle of the label.

Net Quantity of Contents

The net quantity of contents is the minimum amount of food contained within a package, not including the weight of the package and packing material.

- Print the net quantity of contents as weight (for solids or semi-solids), volume (for liquids), or count (in limited situations).
 - Examples: NET WT 12 OZ; 64 FL OZ; 6 COUNT.
- Place in the lower third of the PDP with no other information next to or below.

Information Panel

The information panel is usually found to the right of the PDP. Include the ingredient list, business name and address, and nutrition facts on the information panel.

