

FOOD LABELING

And certain, basic label required elements

Basic Label Elements

- STATEMENT OF IDENTITY** This is common or usual name of the product, in English, that clearly identifies what the product is. (*PDP requirement*)
- DECLARATION OF QUANTITY** A measure of the amount of food in the package or container (*not to include the weight of the packaging or container*). It must appear in both standard and metric units, be expressed in the correct units of measure—weight (oz./g) or volume (fl. oz./mL), and appear in the lower-third of the label. (*PDP requirement*)
- NUTRITION FACTS** The nutritional content must appear on the label. FDA does provide an exemption for small businesses. Nutrition facts are required if there are any health claims on the label (ex. "Low fat," or "Low Sodium")
- INGREDIENTS STATEMENT** The food's ingredients listed in descending order of predominance by weight. The ingredients statement must begin with the word "Ingredients," and all ingredients must be broken down into their constituent parts. All colors and preservatives must be identified. Allergens may be identified in **bold font**.
- ALLERGEN DECLARATIONS** Nine major food allergens have to be clearly identified on the label. They are: **milk, eggs, fish, crustacean shellfish, tree nuts, wheat, peanuts, soybeans and sesame**. These allergens must appear in the ingredients statement, or in a "Contains:" statement immediately following the ingredients statement.
- HANDLING STATEMENT** If the product requires refrigeration for food safety, either the phrase "Keep Refrigerated" or "Keep Frozen" must appear on the label
- PRODUCTION CODE** A product code indicating the manufacture date must appear on the package or container, if not on the label directly, in the event of a product recall
- DECLARATION OF RESPONSIBILITY** This is the physical address of the manufacturer. If a co-packer is used, the address must be preceded by the phrase "Manufactured for:" or "Distributed by:"

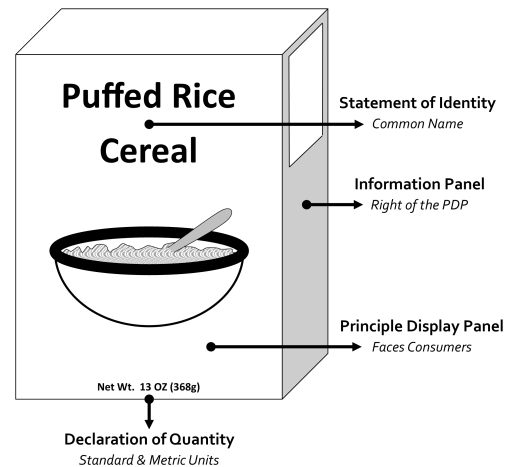
Display Panels

Principle Display Panel (PDP)

The PDP, is that portion of the package label most likely to be seen by at the time of purchase. Many containers have two or more different surfaces that are suitable for display as the PDP.

Information Panel

The information panel is located to the immediate right of the PDP, as displayed to the consumer. If this panel is unusable, due to package design and construction, (e.g., folded flaps), then the information panel is the next label panel immediately to the right. Label elements required to be placed together should appear here, if such labeling does not appear on the PDP.



GDA Label Reviews

The Georgia Department of Agriculture reviews food labels for formatting only.

Food labels should fully comply with the following FDA rules:

- The federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FD&C Act),
- The Fair Packaging and Labeling Act,
- The Nutrition Labeling and Education Act (NLEA), and the
- Food Allergen Labeling and Consumer Protection Act (FALCPA) of 2004.

FDA Guidance and Regulations for Food Product Labels

The FDA has guidance documents available on their website. These documents provide more detailed information and specific technical label requirements:

- Guidance for Industry: [A Food Labeling Guide](#)
- Guidance for Industry: [Questions and Answers Regarding Food Allergens \(Edition 4\)](#)
- Small Entity Compliance Guide: [Revision of the Nutrition and Supplement Facts Labels](#)

Questions or Need Additional Support? Please contact the Food Safety Division at 404-656-3627.

For more info:
agr.georgia.gov/manufacturers

