

2026 Homemade Chocolate Cake Contest

RULES:

1. Open to any individual **amateur baker** who is a Pennsylvania resident; one entry per person.
2. **Entrants may NOT have won first place in this Homemade Chocolate Cake Contest at any other fair in 2026.**
3. Entry must be a **layered chocolate cake** made from "scratch." Premade mixes are **not** acceptable ingredients. **All ingredients and decorations must be edible. The finished overall size of the cake, including decorations, shall not exceed 12" high by 12" wide by 12" deep.**
4. Entry **must be frosted** and frosting must be made from "scratch".
5. Cake recipe **must feature chocolate or cocoa** as a main ingredient.
6. The entire cake entry must be submitted for judging on cardboard or a disposable plate. (All pans, plates and dishes are considered to be disposable and will **not** be returned.)
7. Recipes must be submitted with the entry, printed on one side of 8 1/2" x 11" paper. Recipe must list all ingredients, quantities, and the preparation instructions. Entrants name, address, phone number, email address and exhibitor number must be printed on the **back** side of all the pages. (All recipes and cakes will become the property of the Fair or PA Farm Show and will **not** be returned.)
8. Refrigeration is not available at the Fair or PA Farm Show. Entries that require refrigeration after baking must indicate so in the recipe. Those entries will not be sold, auctioned, or otherwise distributed for consumption after judging for food safety reasons. **Note: The Solanco Fair is unable to accept any entries that require refrigeration (See Baked Products Rule #4; page 84).**
9. **Judging criteria:**

Flavor (<i>aroma, taste, good balance of flavorings</i>).....	35 points
Inside Characteristics (<i>texture, moist & tender crumb; not soggy or dry</i>).....	25 points
Frosting (<i>taste, texture, even color</i>).....	20 points
Outside Characteristics (<i>surface, shape, finished size, color</i>).....	15 points
Creativity	<u>5 points</u>
Total	100 points

Solanco Fair Prizes: 1st - \$25 2nd - \$20 3rd - \$15 4th - \$10
 First Place winner is eligible for the **2027 PA Farm Show** competition.

Premiums for the 2027 PA Farm Show Competition
1st - \$500, 2nd - \$250, 3rd - \$100, 4th - Rosette Ribbon, 5th - Rosette Ribbon
Sponsors: PA State Assoc. of County Fairs

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Tue & Fri 6:30 AM – 8 PM; Sat 7 AM – 4 PM

Closed Sundays