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8.00am - 4.00pm MON - FRI

# Food Labelling Requirements – Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code

This is a guide for people who wish to produce food at home and for sale at markets.

Legislation covering the labelling of food products has been introduced to ensure customers and the public are informed on the ingredients contained in foods, particularly in respect to nutrition as well as food allergies.

The Food Standards Code requires every food package to contain the following on its label as a minimum:

- The product name or, where no name is prescribed, a name or description of the food sufficient to indicate the true nature of the food
- Lot identification or a batch code
- The manufacturer or suppliers business name and address in Australia or New Zealand
- Mandatory warning and advisory statements and declarations specified in Standard 1.2.3 and any other warning and advisory statements specified elsewhere in the Code. A mandatory food warning is essential when a food contains an ingredient that may cause a sensitivity reaction to some consumers
- Ingredient listing, with the ingredients to be listed in descending order of ingoing weight, and are to be clearly legible
- Date marking of either a best before, or use by date
- A Nutritional Information Panel (NIP). A free NIP calculator is available on the Food Standards website at:  
<http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/industry/npc/Pages/Nutrition-Panel-Calculator-introduction.aspx> ;
- Percentage labelling (characterising ingredient/s and component/s)
- Directions for use or storage where, for reasons of public health and safety, consumers need appropriate directions for use or storage of the food; and
- Country of origin must be stated on products made and sold in Australia, other than food products from New Zealand.

Imported foods are required to be labelled with the name and business address of the importer in Australia.

In addition to the above, all labelling of imported foods shall be:

- In the English language
- Distinct, legible and permanent
- Clearly visible to the prospective purchaser
- In standard type
- In characters of uniform size, style and colour; and
- In such colour as to afford a distinct contrast to the background.

For more detailed information on food labelling requirements, please refer to the following website:

<http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/code/userguide/pages/default.aspx>