

McVitie's Hobnobs Oaty Cookies Dark Chocolate: Chips, Not a Coating

From the teas.co.uk wiki

McVitie's Hobnobs Oaty Cookies Dark Chocolate: Chips, Not a Coating, in summary:

The Hobnob oat base in cookie form, with dark chocolate flavour chips baked through it. Toasted oat leads, the dark chips add bitterness, and it wants an unsweetened mug of strong tea or a short coffee.

Last reviewed by the teas.co.uk team in September 2026.

The ingredient list settles what the pack name leaves open: the [chocolate](#) here is baked in as dark chocolate flavour chips, not spread on as a coating. What you get is an oat cookie studded with bitter dark pockets, with the toasted oat still doing the leading.

What the label shows

Wholegrain rolled oats lead the published ingredients at 26%, followed by palm oil and the dark chocolate flavour chips at 19%, then wheat flour, sugar and wholemeal wheat flour. The chips are made from sugar, palm oil, cocoa mass, fat-reduced cocoa powder and cocoa butter. Dried whey appears further down, which is worth knowing, because dark chocolate is often assumed to come without milk.

The allergen advice follows from that list: wheat and oats, which contain gluten, plus milk and soya. The current pack is the final word. If gluten is the concern, the brand's Gluten Free Hobnobs are the ones to look at, since oats and wheat are both built into this cookie.

Why oats make a rougher bake

Flour milled fine binds into a tight, even crumb. Rolled oats refuse to: they keep their shape as flakes, leaving a rough, gappy bake that breaks along no clean line and needs chewing rather than melting away on the tongue. That is why the toasted oat flavour, with a faint honeyed warmth behind it, lingers after each bite, and why one cookie feels like a proper biscuit.

The gaps pay off in the mug. Tea spreads through them evenly while the oat fragments keep carrying the weight, so the cookie sags as a warning before it drops. Five seconds is realistic, where a butter cookie

gives up sooner, and the oat will outlast the chocolate. It is thick and uneven, though, a cookie for the hand rather than one to balance on a saucer.

Dark or milk, and what to pour

Our rule is simple. If you sugar your tea, the milk chocolate version of this cookie will suit you better; if you drink it unsweetened, choose this one. Milk chocolate adds sugar and dairy that push an oat biscuit towards pudding and bury the toasted note, while dark adds bitterness, which the oat carries easily and a strong mug welcomes. Children tend to prefer the milk one.

Coffee is where the dark version earns its place. Few [biscuits](#) hold their ground next to an espresso, but toasted oat and a dark roast share a roasted character, and the bitter chips sit between the two. With tea, milk is optional rather than necessary, since oat and dark chocolate both stand up to a black cup. Sugar is the thing to leave out: sweeten the mug and the bitter contrast you chose dark for simply disappears.

The packs we stock

- [McVitie's Hobnobs Biscuits Oaty Cookies Dark Chocolate, 155g](#)

What the label says

The published ingredient list for McVitie's Hobnobs Biscuits Oaty Cookies Dark Chocolate, 155g says it contains wheat and oats (gluten), milk and soya. Check the current UK pack before purchase; formulations and allergen advice can change.

Ingredients, as published: Wholegrain Rolled Oats (26%), Palm Oil, Dark Chocolate Flavour Chips (19%) [Sugar, Palm Oil, Cocoa Mass, Fat Reduced Cocoa Powder, Cocoa Butter, Emulsifiers (Soya Lecithin, E476), Flavouring], Flour (Wheat Flour, Calcium, Niacin, Iron, Folic Acid, Thiamin), Sugar, Wholemeal Wheat Flour, Partially Inverted Sugar Syrup, Dried Whey (Milk), Raising Agent (Sodium Bicarbonate), Salt, Flavourings.

Typical values per 100g Per 100g

Energy	521 kcal
Fat	27.7g
of which saturates	13.3g
Carbohydrate	58.7g
of which sugars	25.4g
Fibre	5.3g
Protein	6.5g
Salt	0.71g

Ingredient and nutrition information for this product, as published on the manufacturer's label. The pack in your hands is the final word.

What to drink with it

- [L'Or Espresso Ristretto Intensity 11 Coffee, 40 Pods 208g](#): A short, dense ristretto that meets roasted oat and dark chocolate head on.
- [Yorkshire Tea Original Loose Leaf Tea, 250g](#): A strong everyday brew that works black or with milk, the unsweetened mug this cookie is made for.
- [Hyson Premium Breakfast Tea, 100 Tea Bags 180g](#): A breakfast blend with enough body for a five-second [dunk](#) and a long oaty finish.
- [PG Tips English Breakfast Special Blends Speciality Black, 70 Tea Bags](#): Another full breakfast cup, brewed strong and taken without sugar to keep the bitter edge of the chips in play.

Elsewhere in the McVitie's range

- [McVitie's Club Layers Orange, 39g](#)
- [McVitie's Club Mint Biscuit Bars Multipack, 7 Bars 154g](#)
- [McVitie's Club Orange Biscuit Bars Multipack, 7 Bars 154g](#)
- [McVitie's Club Salted Caramel Flavour Biscuit Bars Multipack, 7 x 22g](#)
- [McVitie's Dark Chocolate Digestive Biscuits, 266g](#)
- [McVitie's Digestive Pink Raspberry & Cream Flavour, Limited Edition, 232g](#)

The full range is on the [McVitie's brand page](#).

FAQ

Is the chocolate in Hobnobs oaty cookies a coating or chips? Chips. The published ingredients list dark chocolate flavour chips at 19%, baked through the oat dough.

Does dark chocolate mean the cookie is dairy-free? No. Dried whey from milk is in the ingredient list, and the allergen advice names milk alongside wheat, oats and soya.

How long can you dunk an oat cookie? Around five seconds. The open oat structure takes in tea evenly and sags before it breaks, so you get a warning.

Should I buy the dark or the milk chocolate version? We would steer anyone who drinks tea unsweetened towards dark. If you sugar your tea, the milk version will seem better balanced.

Do these cookies go with coffee? Better than most biscuits, even with an espresso, because the roasted notes of oat and coffee line up.

Curator's note: Eat one standing up with a black mug in the other hand. It is too craggy for a tea tray, and all the better for it. Lee, teas.co.uk, Tunbridge Wells.

In short: McVitie's Hobnobs Oaty Cookies Dark Chocolate: Chips, Not a Coating

Field	Detail
Brand	McVitie's
Packs we stock	155g
Category	Cookies

Field	Detail
Allergens (as published)	It contains wheat and oats (gluten), milk and soya.
Dunkable	Yes, about five seconds
Best with	Strong tea without sugar, or an espresso
Chocolate	Dark flavour chips baked through

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