



**COOKIES
BY THE
DOZENS**

100

The number of countries that **Oreos**, the world's best-selling cookies, are sold in.

689,000

The download count, at press time, of **Cookie Doodle**, an app that allows users to roll, cut, bake, and decorate virtual cookies.

5

How many **presidential elections**, out of the past six, that **Family Circle's Presidential Cookie Bake-Off** (established in 1992) has correctly predicted.

**215
million**

The number of boxes of **Girl Scout cookies** sold last year.



MEAL OF FORTUNE

A takeout fave's fabled history. Indisputably the most ubiquitous odd-shaped confection in America, the fortune cookie stems from the moon cake, a pastry served in 14th-century China. In an effort to plan a revolt, bakers once slipped messages inside, sparking the concept of cookie communication. But the prefab treat we've come to love originated during the California Gold Rush in either San Francisco or L.A., depending on whom you believe. Today, Brooklyn's Wonton Foods is the country's biggest producer of both cookies and fortunes. As for the wisdom found in the rest of the cellophane-wrapped treats being made in the U.S., remarkably it mostly falls to two scribes: Steven Yang of San Francisco, and his former employer, Yong Lee of Boston, who cut ties in 1993, apparently following a common cookie adage: "A journey of 1,000 miles begins with one step."

