



Certification Guide for Food and Non-Food Consumables

HMC's certification mark is internationally recognised, allowing you to export your products globally.





About Halal

Islamic dietary laws define the standards for halal food, beverages and ingredients.

These regulations are derived from the Qur'an and Sunnah, which encompasses the actions and teachings of Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him).

The application of these dietary principles are formulated through the interpretations of the Prophet's Companions and the opinions of Muslim jurists.

Introducing HMC

The Halal Monitoring Committee (HMC) is the UK's leading and largest non-profit registered charity, specialising in the monitoring, inspection, and certification of halal products. Employing over 200+ staff, our operations span across the UK, Europe, and the global arena.

HMC offers certification for a broad spectrum of both consumable products such as food, beverages and ingredients, as well as non-consumable product categories such as pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, logistics, and animal feed.

Halal Certification by HMC serves as an assurance that a specific product has undergone rigorous scrutiny, aligning with Islamic dietary regulations whilst also adhering to relevant UK and international legal standards. Our certification process encompasses a comprehensive evaluation of all products and every facet of their manufacturing and processing.

At present, the UK is home to approximately 3.8 million Muslims, and globally the Muslim population is over 2 billion. The UK's halal product market is estimated to exceed £6 billion, while the global halal market surpasses £2.3 trillion, excluding the Islamic banking sector, with continued growth projected.

In their purchasing decisions, Muslim consumers increasingly seek Halal Certification to instil confidence and assurance in their choices. The present climate presents an opportune moment to enter this expanding consumer base by attaining Halal Certification.

Upon securing Halal Certification through HMC, you will gain the following privileges:

- **The ability to market your products as halal.**
- **The use of the internationally recognised registered trademark 'HMC halal logo'.**
- **The opportunity to promote your products to a dedicated audience of halal consumers.**
- **The capacity to market your products as ingredients for use by other halal certified producers.**
- **The ability to continue selling your products to existing non-halal markets, as halal certification complements the fulfilment of all relevant UK and international legislative and health and safety requirements.**



Working With You

HMC strives to establish enduring relationships with clients, assisting them in maximising marketing opportunities for their halal products. Our core values of integrity and transparency underpin all our processes as we cultivate a business founded on mutual respect.

We provide:

Proven and Established Processes

- These processes facilitate cost-effective integration into pre-existing food safety systems.

Professionalism and Expertise

- Our team demonstrates professionalism and expertise at every stage of the accreditation process.

Global Marketing Opportunities

- HMC is a globally recognised Halal Certification body, enabling our members to access existing and emerging markets. Presently, we hold certification with the Gulf Accreditation Centre, enabling our members to export to GCC countries, the UAE, and beyond.

In-Depth Market Insights

- We offer expert insights into the halal consumer market in Western Europe and other regions.

Halal Product Guidelines

If you are considering Halal Certification, it is imperative to ensure that your products and processes either already conform to, or can be adjusted to adhere to, the required criteria. In this regard, HMC has developed a comprehensive manual containing well-defined regulations that facilitate compliance with both technical and religious prerequisites. To obtain your personal copy of the manual, please contact a member of the HMC team at info@halalhmc.org.

Below, we have outlined some overarching guidelines that necessitate risk assessment throughout your operations to ascertain their potential for Halal compliance, thus enabling you to attain Halal Certification.

Food, beverages, consumables, and cleaning agent products must be entirely devoid of the following elements:

- Alcohol, whether in the form of ethanol or any other intoxicant, whether liquid or solid.
- Insect-derived substances such as shellac, cochineal, etc.
- Materials of human origin, such as L-cysteine.
- Blood and its by-products, including blood plasma.
- Ingredients sourced from animals, such as animal fats, oils, gelatine, etc. (unless they originate from a halal certified source or are explicitly authorised by HMC).

The product or any by-product, even when temporarily used as a substitute, must not contain or be derived from any of the aforementioned categories, even in the most minuscule quantity, whether as an ingredient, sub-ingredient, processing aid, releasing agent, glazing agent, additive, colourant, or in any other form.

Furthermore, the preparation, processing, and manufacturing equipment must also remain devoid of any of the above-mentioned substances. Similarly, packaging materials that come into contact with the food product must be free from these elements.

In addition to the stipulations mentioned above, all ingredients for each product must fully comply with the relevant statutory requirements, ensuring that the product is safe and poses no harm to human consumption, as specified by the Department of Trade and Industry and European directives.

These regulations extend to products procured from external suppliers and utilised in the manufacturing of your product. It may be necessary to share this definition with your suppliers to verify the suitability of their products.



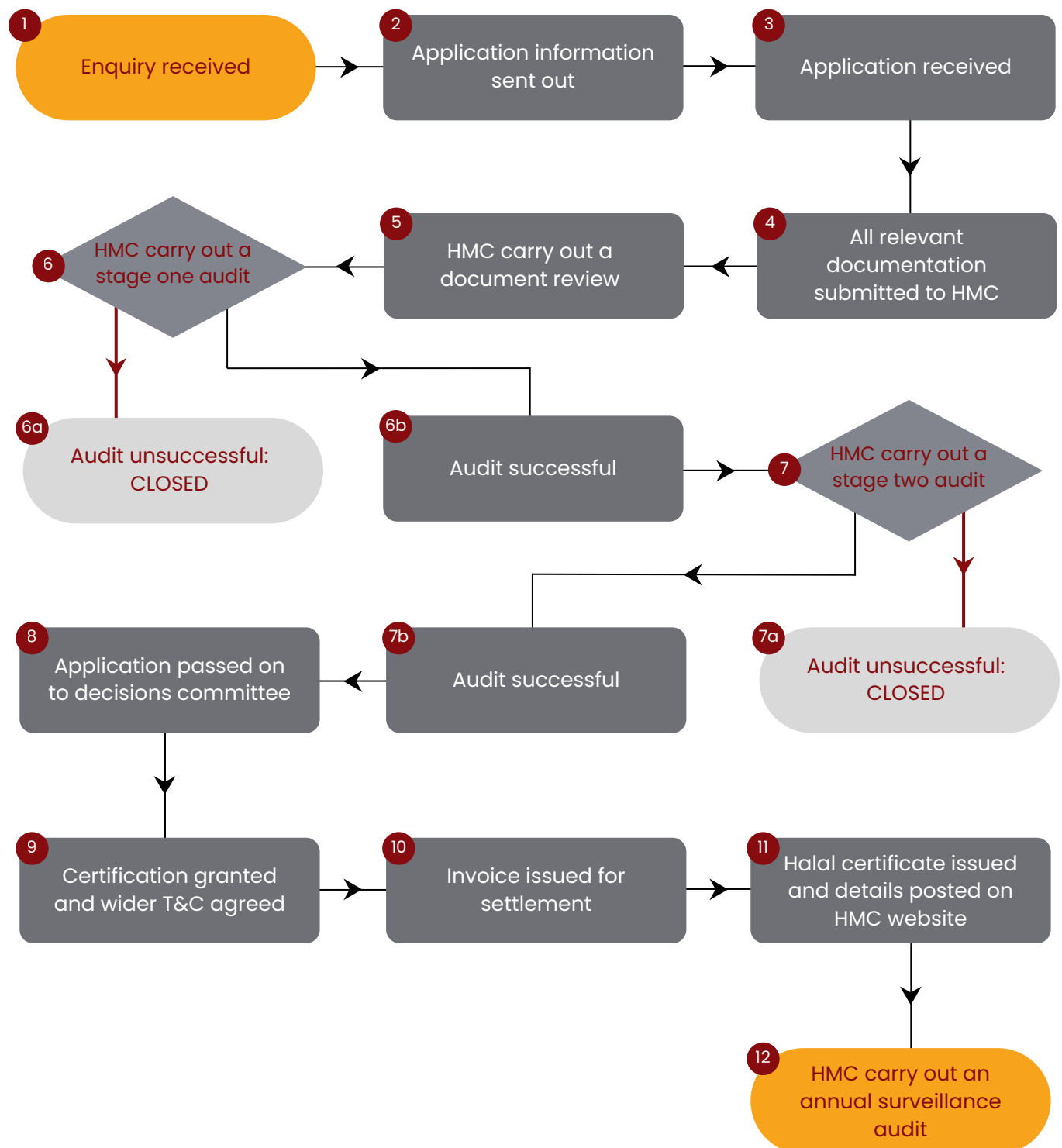
HMC Certification for Consumables

HMC has devised its certification process to seamlessly integrate with your existing product and manufacturing systems.

By treating halal requirements with the same level of scrutiny as other sources of potential contamination, such as physical, chemical, allergenic, and microbiological factors, it becomes possible to identify Halal Critical Control Points (HCCPs) within the process flow. At these HCCPs, critical limits are established, and corrective measures are formulated.

This comprehensive assessment encompasses all ingredients and every facet of the product's manufacturing and processing to guarantee that it is entirely free from any non-halal substance and does not come into contact with such materials.

How the Certification Process Works



Helping You Apply

Application checklist:

When applying for Halal Certification, it is essential to provide the following details for each product, in conjunction with the completed certification form:

- Product names
- List of all manufacturing locations, including floor plans
- Process flows (for all products, if different)
- Detailed ingredient specifications, as well as any other substances employed in the manufacturing process
- Inventory of cleaning products used
- All relevant policies and procedures (HMC will communicate and advise on the necessary policies)

We understand that it may be challenging to allocate resources to thoroughly document all your processes and verify the ingredients with your suppliers. Consequently, we can recommend independent Halal consultants to collaborate with your teams.

It is crucial not to falter at the final hurdle, as the primary reason for companies failing Halal Certification often pertains to their cleaning processes. Many cleaning products contain alcohol. Therefore, we will require the following information related to your cleaning procedures:

- A comprehensive description of your cleaning regime.
- A list of all cleaning products, including chemicals and detergents, utilised in your cleaning processes.
- Complete information about the manufacturers and suppliers of these cleaning products, including their names, addresses, and contact details.

In cases of uncertainty, we can offer a list of Halal Certified cleaning products that can be utilised with confidence.

Are you producing from home?

If you are producing a non-meat product from home, kindly send an email to info@halalhmc.org, and one of our team members will guide you through our home certification scheme. HMC has developed this scheme to offer small-scale micro-producers the chance to become part of the HMC community and enhance consumer confidence in their products.



Keeping Costs for Certification Low

We are committed to maintaining certification costs at the lowest feasible level. As a not-for-profit registered organisation, our primary goal is to deliver public benefit and provide the highest standard of service to our members. Consequently, whether you seek certification for a single product or multiple products, the cost will remain consistent.

Our costs undergo ongoing scrutiny, and if you require an estimate, please do not hesitate to request one. We are here to serve your needs and offer transparency in our pricing structure.

Moving Ahead With HMC

We are always ready to address any general or specific enquiries you may have regarding the process of applying for Halal Certification or about HMC's activities.

To obtain an application form for certification or to request further information, please feel free to contact us via phone or email. Alternatively, you can download an application form directly from our website at www.halalhmc.org.



Producers turn to HMC

for our extensive experience in collaborating with them to develop integrated, effective, and practical solutions that adhere to the most stringent halal standards.

Retailers seek certification from HMC

to enable them to sell their products to Muslim consumers with confidence, thereby unlocking opportunities in potential new markets for their goods.

Consumers trust HMC certification

due to its rigorous approach in guaranteeing that products are authentically halal, rather than merely labelled as such.









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Halal Monitoring Committee (UK)

Leicester Business Centre, 111 Ross Walk
Leicester, LE4 5HH, England, UK

 0333 447 886

 www.halalhmc.org

 info@halalhmc.org