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## Cold Stone Creamery

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If you've got a craving for ice cream, but you're not willing to settle for the premixed grocery-store stuff, Cold Stone Creamery is the place to go to get ice cream just the way you like it.

This ice cream parlor is named for the way the ice cream is served: You start out by choosing one of their many freshly made ice cream flavors as a base, then you choose as many toppings as you can handle. Cold Stone employees mix it all together on a cold stone in front of you.

You always come out with exactly what you want.

**Location:** Fig Garden Village, 5076 N. Palm Ave.; Villagio, 7971 N. Blackstone Ave.; Windmill Market Place, 1845 Herndon Ave., Clovis.

**Service:** Amazing. Cold Stone is known for being extraordinarily friendly and inviting to its teen customers, as well as adults and children. You are greeted as you walk in the door and employees are not only happy to serve your needs, but are sincerely happy to talk to you as well. You will never see employees without genuine smiles.

**Highlights:** The ice cream is made fresh daily in the store, and varieties are rich with flavor unlike any other kind. Some of the most popular flavors at Cold Stone are cheesecake, cake batter and sweet cream. Whether you like to be creative or like the classics, Cold Stone has exactly what you want. If you're worried about calories, try the fat-free flavors or the sorbets.

**Price:** Cold Stone Creamery ice cream comes at a price that isn't too cheap. It's certainly more expensive than your typical ice cream parlor. However, unlike most places, you get unbelievably large portions, good-quality ice cream and a huge variety of choices. A typical serving of ice cream runs about \$2.95 to \$3.95 and you get one free topping mixed in with each serving; each add-in after that costs 49 cents. If you plan on going frequently, get one of Cold Stone's creamery cards and you'll get one free ice cream after having purchased nine regular ice creams.

**Hangout quotient:** You often will find many teens just sitting in the store enjoying their ice cream and hanging out with friends. It's most definitely a welcoming place to hang out in a friendly environment.

**Atmosphere:** It's a lighthearted, fun-loving and welcoming atmosphere. The workers are always smiling and chatting with the customers.

And if you're feeling generous, you can throw a dollar in the tip jar and employees will sing you a song to show their appreciation. That makes it an incredibly inviting atmosphere.

Does it rate two thumbs up? Most certainly.

The ice cream is wonderful, the atmosphere is fun and you can't beat the service.