

# Hi,

Enjoy these delicious holiday Baking Hacks — curated by czurban.com

Classic Favorites

# **Spiced Gingerbread Cookies**

# Ingredients

- 3 cups all-purpose flour
- ¾ cup brown sugar
- ½ cup unsalted butter (softened)
- ½ cup molasses
- 1 large egg
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 1 tsp ground ginger
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- ½ tsp nutmeg
- ½ tsp salt

# Steps

- 1. Cream butter and sugar until fluffy.
- 2. Add egg and molasses; mix well.
- 3. Whisk flour, baking soda, and spices separately.
- 4. Combine dry with wet ingredients.
- 5. Chill dough for 1 hour.

- 6. Roll, cut into shapes, bake at 350°F for 8-10 minutes.
- 7. Cool and decorate with icing.

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*Modern Holiday Treats* 

# **Peppermint Mocha Cupcakes**

#### Ingredients

- 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  cups flour,  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup cocoa powder, 1 cup sugar
- ½ cup oil, 2 eggs, ½ cup brewed coffee
- 1 tsp baking powder, ½ tsp baking soda, ½ tsp salt
- 1 tsp peppermint extract

#### Frosting

- 1 cup butter, 3 cups powdered sugar, 2 tbsp milk, ½ tsp peppermint extract

#### Steps

- 1. Mix dry ingredients.
- 2. Add wet ingredients; blend smooth.
- 3. Fill liners \% full, bake at 350°F for 18-20 minutes.
- 4. Beat frosting until fluffy, pipe onto cooled cupcakes.
- 5. Garnish with crushed candy canes.

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# **Eggnog Cheesecake Bars**

## Ingredients

- 2 cups graham cracker crumbs, ½ cup melted butter
- 3 packs cream cheese (8 oz each), 1 cup sugar
- 3 eggs, 1 cup eggnog, 1 tsp nutmeg, 1 tsp vanilla

## Steps

- 1. Mix crumbs + butter, press into pan.
- 2. Beat cream cheese + sugar.

- 3. Add eggs one at a time.
- 4. Stir in eggnog, nutmeg, vanilla.
- 5. Bake at 325°F for 40–45 minutes.
- 6. Chill 4 hours, slice into bars.
- # Show-Stoppers

#### **Red Velvet Yule Log**

#### Ingredients

- 34 cup cake flour, 14 cup cocoa powder, 1 tsp baking powder
- 4 eggs, ¾ cup sugar, 2 tbsp oil, 1 tsp vanilla, red coloring

#### Filling

- 8 oz cream cheese, ½ cup powdered sugar, 1 cup whipped cream

#### Steps

- 1. Beat eggs + sugar until thick.
- 2. Fold in flour, cocoa, baking powder, oil, vanilla, coloring.
- 3. Spread on sheet pan, bake 12–15 minutes at 350°F.
- 4. Roll cake in towel, cool.
- 5. Beat filling smooth, spread, re-roll.
- 6. Dust with sugar or drizzle chocolate.

# **%** Chocolate-Dipped Biscotti

## Ingredients

- 2 cups flour, 1 cup sugar, 1 tsp baking powder, ½ tsp salt
- 3 eggs, 1 tsp vanilla, 1 cup almonds, 1 cup dark chocolate

## Steps

- 1. Mix flour, sugar, baking powder, salt.
- 2. Add eggs + vanilla, fold in almonds.
- 3. Shape logs, bake 25 minutes at 350°F.
- 4. Slice, bake 10 minutes per side.

5. Dip cooled biscotti in chocolate.

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Sincerely,

# Vernon Wade

Creative Director, Culture Z Urban Lifestyle

