

The First Christmas Stocking Currant Cake Recipe

This deliciously spiced cake falls somewhere between a classic rich Christmas fruitcake and a moist tea cake.

YIELDS ABOUT 12 SLICES.

INGREDIENTS

Nonstick spray for greasing the pan ^{1/4} cup light brown sugar, packed $1^{1/2}$ cups all-purpose flour 3 large eggs 1 teaspoon baking powder 2 teaspoons vanilla extract ^{1/4} teaspoon ground nutmeg 1 tablespoon freshly grated lemon rind ^{1/2} teaspoon cinnamon $\frac{1}{2}$ cup golden raisins ¹/₄ teaspoon salt 1/2 cup dark raisins 8 tablespoons (1 stick) salted butter, $1/_4$ cup chopped dried apricots softened 1/4 cup dried currants ^{1/2} cup sugar ^{1/4} cup sliced almonds, finely chopped

- 1. Preheat the oven to 350 °F. Spray an 8-inch springform pan with nonstick spray. Line the bottom and sides with wax paper.
- 2. Combine the flour, baking powder, nutmeg, cinnamon, and salt in a small bowl.
- 3. In a separate bowl, beat the butter and sugars together until thoroughly mixed. Add the eggs one at a time, beating well after each addition. Add the vanilla and lemon rind. Stir in the flour mixture and the rest of the ingredients.
- 4. Bake until a cake tester comes out clean, about one hour. Cool in the pan, then remove and set on a plate.

Serve with a mug of hot chocolate or mulled cider on Christmas Eve, while hanging your stockings!