Gingerbread House Recipe



For the gingerbread

- * 250g unsalted butter
- * 200g dark muscovado sugar
- * 7 tbsp golden syrup
- * 600g plain flour
- * 2 tsp bicarbonate of soda
- * 4 tsp ground ginger

What you'll need to do:



Heat the oven to 200C / 180C fan / gas 6. Melt the butter, sugar and syrup in a pan. Mix the flour, bicarbonate of soda and ground ginger into a large bowl, then stir in the butter mixture to make a stiff dough. If it won't quite come together, add a tiny splash of water.



Cut out your template (already for you on Page 2). Roll out onequarter of the dough on baking paper to the thickness of approx 5mm. Cut a section, then transfer it with the baking paper onto a baking sheet. Repeat with the remaining dough, re-rolling leftovers to make two side walls, a front and back wall, and two roof panels. Use leftover dough for Christmas trees or little Gingerbread people if desired.



Take the flaked almonds and gently poke them into the roof sections, pointy-end first, to look like roof tiles. Bake all the sections for 12 minutes or until firm and just a little darker at the edges. Leave to cool for a few minutes to firm up, then trim around the templates again to give clean, sharp edges. Leave to cool completely.

** Step 4

Put the egg whites in a large bowl, sift in the icing sugar, then stir to make a thick, smooth icing. Spoon into a piping bag with a medium nozzle. Pipe generous lines of icing along the wall edges, one by one, to join the walls together. Use a small bowl to support the walls from the inside, then allow to dry, ideally for a few hours.

To decorate

- * 200g flaked almonds
- * 2 egg whites
- * 500g icing sugar plus extra to dust
- * 125g mini chocolate fingers
- * Generous selection of sweets of your choice
- 1 mini chocolate roll
- Few edible silver balls



Once dry, remove the supports and fix the roof panels on. The angle is steep so you may need to hold these on firmly for a few minutes until the icing starts to dry. Dry completely, ideally overnight. To decorate, pipe a little icing along the length of 20 mini chocolate fingers and stick these lengthways onto the side walls of the house. Use three, upright, for the door.

XX Step 6

Using the icing, stick sweets around the door and on the front of the house. To make the icicles, start with the nozzle at a 90-degree angle to the roof and squeeze out a pea-sized blob of icing. Keeping the pressure on, pull the nozzle down and then off – the icing will pull away, leaving a pointy trail. Repeat all around the front of the house. Cut the chocolate mini roll or dipped Flake on an angle, then fix with icing to make a chimney. Pipe a little icing around the top. If you've made gingerbread trees, decorate these now, too, topping each with a silver ball, if using. Dust the roof with icing sugar for a snowy effect. Lay a winding path of sweets, and fix gingerbread trees around and about using blobs of icing. Your gingerbread house will be edible for about a week.

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