Chocolate Chile Cookies





POINTSPLUS® Value: 2

Servings: 38

Preparation Time: 15 min Cooking Time: 20 min

These are a Texas favorite: a heat spike in an otherwise intensely chocolate cookie.

Ingredients

2 spray(s) cooking spray

2 oz unsweetened baking chocolate square(s), chopped

1 cup(s) all-purpose flour

1 tsp baking soda

1/2 tsp table salt

1/4 tsp cayenne pepper, or more to taste

1/2 cup(s) sliced almonds

1 cup(s) packed brown sugar, dark-variety

1/3 cup(s) sugar, granulated

2 large egg(s), at room temperature

1 tsp vanilla extract

Instructions

Position racks in the top and bottom thirds of the oven; preheat the oven to 350°F. Coat two large cookie sheets with cooking spray.

Place the chocolate in a small bowl and microwave on high for 15 seconds. Stir well, then continue microwaving in 15-second increments, stirring after each, until half the chocolate has melted. Remove the bowl from the microwave and continue stirring until the chocolate has fully melted. Set aside to cool for 5 minutes while you begin making the cookie dough.

Whisk together the flour, baking soda, salt, and cayenne in a medium bowl; set aside.

Place the almonds in a skillet set over medium-low heat; cook, stirring often, until lightly browned and aromatic, about 4 minutes. Set aside.

Beat both sugars and the eggs in a large bowl with an electric mixer at medium speed until thick and pale brown, about 5 minutes. Beat in the melted chocolate and vanilla until smooth.

Remove the beaters and stir in the flour mixture with a wooden spoon, just until all the flour has been moistened. Stir in the toasted almonds.

Drop by rounded teaspoonfuls onto prepared cookie sheets, spacing the mounds about 2 inches apart.

Bake in the top and bottom thirds of the oven for 5 minutes. Reverse the cookie sheets top to bottom and back to front, and continue baking until firm and slightly puffed, about 10 minutes. Cool on the cookie sheets for 5 minutes before transferring to a wire rack. If you need to cook these in several batches, allow the cookie sheets to cool for 5 minutes before spraying them with more cooking spray and making more cookies. Yields 1 cookie per serving.