

chocolate self saucing pudding recipe

Chocolate self saucing pudding recipe is a delightful dessert that has captivated the taste buds of many chocolate lovers around the world. The magic of this recipe lies in its unique ability to create a rich chocolate sauce that forms on the bottom of the pudding while it bakes, resulting in a decadent treat that is both comforting and indulgent. Whether you're hosting a dinner party, celebrating a special occasion, or simply craving something sweet, this pudding is sure to impress. In this article, we will explore the origins of self-saucing pudding, its ingredients, a step-by-step guide to making it, and tips for serving and storing.

Understanding Chocolate Self Saucing Pudding

Chocolate self-saucing pudding is a classic dessert that combines the rich flavors of chocolate with a gooey, sauce-like consistency. The dessert is essentially a cake that, during the baking process, separates into two distinct layers: a light, fluffy cake on top and a thick, chocolate sauce underneath. This unusual phenomenon occurs due to the way the ingredients interact during baking, making it a fascinating dish to prepare.

Origins of Self Saucing Pudding

The origins of self-saucing pudding can be traced back to the 19th century, and it has since become a beloved dish in various cultures. It is particularly popular in Australia and New Zealand, where it is often served in homes and restaurants alike. The dessert is sometimes referred to as "chocolate lava cake," although the two dishes are not identical. While the latter is baked to achieve a molten center, self-saucing pudding is baked to create a thick sauce that remains at the bottom.

Ingredients for Chocolate Self Saucing Pudding

To create a mouth-watering chocolate self-saucing pudding, you will need the following ingredients:

For the Pudding:

1. 1 cup (150g) all-purpose flour
2. 1 cup (200g) granulated sugar
3. 1/2 cup (50g) unsweetened cocoa powder
4. 2 teaspoons baking powder

5. 1/2 teaspoon salt
6. 1/2 cup (125ml) milk
7. 1/4 cup (60ml) vegetable oil
8. 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
9. 1 cup (250ml) boiling water

For the Sauce:

1. 3/4 cup (150g) brown sugar
2. 1/4 cup (25g) unsweetened cocoa powder
3. 2 cups (500ml) hot water

Step-by-Step Guide to Making Chocolate Self Saucing Pudding

Creating your own chocolate self-saucing pudding is simple and requires minimal effort. Follow these easy steps for a delicious outcome:

Step 1: Preheat the Oven

Preheat your oven to 350°F (175°C). This will ensure that your pudding is baked evenly and thoroughly.

Step 2: Prepare the Baking Dish

Grease a medium-sized baking dish (around 8-inch square or similar) with butter or non-stick spray. This will help prevent the pudding from sticking to the sides.

Step 3: Combine Dry Ingredients

In a large mixing bowl, sift together the following dry ingredients:

- All-purpose flour
- Granulated sugar
- Unsweetened cocoa powder
- Baking powder
- Salt

Mix well to ensure that all ingredients are evenly distributed.

Step 4: Add Wet Ingredients

In the same bowl, add the following wet ingredients:

- Milk
- Vegetable oil
- Vanilla extract

Stir the mixture until combined. The batter will be somewhat thick but should not be lumpy.

Step 5: Transfer to Baking Dish

Pour the batter into the prepared baking dish, spreading it evenly across the bottom.

Step 6: Prepare the Sauce

In a separate bowl, combine the brown sugar and cocoa powder. Sprinkle this mixture evenly over the batter in the baking dish. This will form the sauce base during baking.

Step 7: Add Boiling Water

Carefully pour the boiling water over the entire baking dish. Do not stir; the water will sink to the bottom, creating the sauce layer.

Step 8: Bake the Pudding

Place the baking dish in the preheated oven and bake for approximately 30-35 minutes. The top should appear set and slightly cracked, while the sauce forms underneath.

Step 9: Cool and Serve

Once baked, remove the pudding from the oven and let it cool for a few minutes. Serve it warm, spooning the pudding and the sauce together into bowls.

Serving Suggestions

Chocolate self-saucing pudding is delightful on its own, but there are several ways to enhance the dessert experience:

1. **Ice Cream:** Serve the pudding with a scoop of vanilla, chocolate, or mint ice cream for a delightful contrast in temperature and flavor.
2. **Whipped Cream:** A dollop of freshly whipped cream can add richness and a touch of elegance.
3. **Fresh Berries:** Raspberries or strawberries can provide a refreshing tartness that balances the sweetness of the pudding.
4. **Chocolate Sauce:** For the ultimate chocolate experience, drizzle some extra chocolate sauce on top before serving.

Each of these options can elevate your chocolate self-saucing pudding, making it a memorable dessert for any occasion.

Storage Tips

If you have any leftovers (though it's unlikely!), here's how to store your chocolate self-saucing pudding:

1. **Refrigeration:** Allow the pudding to cool completely before transferring it to an airtight container. It can be stored in the refrigerator for up to 3 days.
2. **Reheating:** To enjoy leftovers, gently reheat the pudding in the microwave or oven. If the sauce has thickened, add a splash of milk or water to loosen it up.

Conclusion

Chocolate self-saucing pudding is a timeless dessert that combines simplicity with indulgence. With its rich flavors and unique texture, it's a dish that can bring joy to any gathering. The recipe is easy to follow and offers a satisfying reward for your effort. Whether you're making it for a family meal, a special celebration, or just for yourself, this pudding is sure to be a hit. The delightful combination of cake and chocolate sauce makes it a comforting treat that can be enjoyed any time of the year. So gather your ingredients, preheat your oven, and get ready to whip up this delicious chocolate self-saucing pudding!

Frequently Asked Questions

What ingredients are needed for a chocolate self saucing pudding?

The basic ingredients include all-purpose flour, cocoa powder, baking powder, sugar, milk, butter, and chocolate chips, along with water for the sauce.

How long does it take to prepare chocolate self saucing pudding?

Preparation typically takes about 15 minutes, and the pudding needs to bake for approximately 30-35 minutes.

Can I make chocolate self saucing pudding in individual ramekins?

Yes, you can divide the batter into individual ramekins, but be sure to adjust the baking time to about 20-25 minutes.

What is the best way to serve chocolate self saucing pudding?

Serve it warm, directly from the oven, with a scoop of vanilla ice cream or a dollop of whipped cream on top for added indulgence.

Can I substitute any ingredients in the chocolate self saucing pudding recipe?

Yes, you can use almond milk or coconut milk as a dairy substitute, and gluten-free flour can replace all-purpose flour for a gluten-free option.

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