WHAT IS COOKIE BUTTER?
It's a creamy spread, available in stores or online, that's made with butter or oil, sugar, and crushed spiced cookies like gingersnaps or speculoos.



WARNING!
Ask an adult's permission before using the oven.

Bake brownies with swirls of cookie butter

Ingredients

- Nonstick cooking spray
- 1 stick unsalted butter
- ¼ cup coconut oil
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 cup flour
- ½ teaspoon baking powder
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ¾ cup unsweetened cocoa powder
- 1 large egg
- 2 egg yolks
- ⅓ cup semi-sweet chocolate chips
- ⅓ cup cookie butter

Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 350˚F and line an 8-inch square baking dish with parchment paper, leaving an overhang on at least 2 sides. Mist the parchment with nonstick cooking spray.
2. In a large microwave-safe bowl, combine the butter and coconut oil. Microwave in 20-second intervals, stirring each time, until fully melted. Stir in the sugar and vanilla, then set aside to cool slightly, about 5 minutes.
3. In a separate bowl, combine the flour, baking powder, salt, and cocoa powder. Mix well.
4. Add the egg and egg yolks to the butter-sugar mixture and whisk well to combine.
5. Add the dry ingredients and mix until just combined. Do not overmix. Fold in the chocolate chips, then transfer the batter to the prepared pan, spreading it with the back of a spatula in an even layer.
6. Dollop teaspoonfuls of the cookie butter evenly over the batter. Use the tip of a knife to swirl the cookie butter into the batter. Bake the brownies 24 to 28 minutes or until the edges are set.
7. Let the brownies cool completely before removing them from the pan and slicing. Makes 16 brownies.

ECO TIP OF THE WEEK: GATHER LEAVES INTO GARDEN BEDS

Instead of bagging leaves during a fall cleanup, talk to your family about using the fallen leaves to enrich the soil of your garden. Decomposing leaves nourish the ground with nutrients, turning into mulch that will help spring flowers grow. Another reason not to rake away all your leaves is that they provide a habitat for small wildlife like moths, toads, salamanders, cocooned moths, and bumblebee queens. They also provide food for earthworms. Many ground-foraging birds, such as robins, cardinals, wrens, and blue jays, are also drawn to piles of leaves, where they can hop around in search of insects to eat.



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