



Here's a gay Christmas Tree Cake for a holiday party.

Personalize Your Holiday Parties With Home-Decorated Cakes—Cakes help a lot in Christmas entertaining. A large festive cake gives a lavish air to any Yuletide serving table while a flock of individual cakes in Christmas togs personalizes your hospitality. The same batter can be used for either. Here's PURITAN CAKE, delectable, but not as rich as many:

Cream until soft. 1/2 cup of shortening and 1 cup light brown sugar. Add 3 beaten eggs, 1/4 cup orange juice, 1 teaspoon each of grated lemon and orange rinds, cinnamon and vanilla. Mix in 1/2 teaspoon salt and a cup each of chopped raisins and dates, 1/2 cup each of chopped candied pineapple, citron and candied cherries. Add 2 cups flour, 1 teaspoon soda and 1/4 cup shredded almonds. Pour into a round cake pan (with hole in center) lined with heavy waxed paper. Bake 1 1/2 hours in a moderately slow oven—325 degrees. For small cakes, fill greased muffin pans two-thirds and bake 35 minutes in moderate oven—350 degrees.

Cover the large cake with white icing. Sprinkle with chopped white gum drops or silver shill (anything to give sparkle). Stick a small green

**Christmas Tree Cake**  
2 cups sifted cake flour  
2 teaspoons double-acting baking powder  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
1/2 cup butter or other shortening  
2 cups granulated sugar  
3 eggs, well beaten  
4 tablespoons milk  
1 teaspoon vanilla  
Bake in greased pan, 1 1/2 hours, in moderate oven (350° F.) 35 minutes, or until done. Spread top and sides with Almond Butter Cream Frosting. Make outline of Christmas tree with a toothpick, filling in with green tinted, moist, sweetened coconut. Flowers in corners are made of slivers of red maraschino cherries.  
**Almond Butter Cream Frosting**  
1 1/2 cups butter, washed in cold water to remove salt  
1 1/2 cups toasted almonds, ground  
3/4 teaspoon almond extract  
Cream butter. Add sugar gradually, as cream until very fluffy. Add almonds, flavoring and blend. Add milk or cream until of right consistency to spread.

branch in the center. Trim the "tree" with tiny candies, rooky cut-outs and festoons of popped corn, nuts and fruit strings. Tip it with a sugar-coated, rooky star. Frost the small cakes and stick on figures and designs fashioned from colored gum drops, red cinnamon candies and fruit peels.

A Yule Log Cake makes a clever Christmas cake. Generously spread your best baked jelly roll with a jellied fruit-nut mixture. Roll quickly, wrap in waxed paper and chill until set. Cover with chocolate French pastry icing and make grooves (the bark) with a fork or pastry tube. Simulate knot holes with tiny green and white candies. Keep the log chilled until time to serve and then slip it into a toy sleigh drawn by reindeer.

"Christmas tree" white, yellow or apple layer cakes with a thick date filling. Frost top and sides with white or caramel icing. Trace around a paper bell or star pattern on design with chopped nuts, raisins or coconut or outline it with red candies, currants and sliced dates.  
A pile of snowballs always looks Christmasy. Cut out 1 1/2 inch squares of baked white cake, dip them in thick white frosting (boiled is fine) and then roll in coconut.

**Corn Chowder**  
3 tablespoons fat  
3 tablespoons chopped onions  
1 tablespoon minced parsley  
1 1/2 cups corn  
1 cup cut-up raw potatoes  
1/4 teaspoon salt  
2 cups water  
3 tablespoons butter  
2 tablespoons flour  
2 cups milk  
Melt in frying pan. Add onion, simmer 5 minutes. Pour in parsley, corn, potatoes and water. Cover and boil 10 minutes. Mix butter with flour and add with the milk and salt to cooked mixture. Simmer 5 minutes. Stir frequently. Serve in hot bowl, with paprika.

### Christmas Confections

**Glazed Nuts**  
1 1/2 cups granulated sugar  
1/4 teaspoon cream of tartar  
1/2 cup water  
1 cup nut meats  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
Thoroughly mix the sugar, cream of tartar and water. Boil gently, without stirring, until syrup turns light brown. Add nuts and salt and, when well glazed, quickly pour onto waxed paper.

**Sugared Pop-Corn**  
2 cups granulated sugar  
2 teaspoons vinegar  
1 cup water  
1 teaspoon vanilla  
4 tablespoons butter  
6 quarts popped corn  
Boil, without stirring, the sugar, vinegar and water. When a fine thread forms when a portion is slowly poured from a spoon, add vanilla and butter. Mix and pour over corn. Stir until well coated. Separate or shape into small balls.

**Spiced Nuts**  
2 cups granulated sugar  
1 teaspoon cinnamon  
1/2 teaspoon cloves  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
1 cup water  
2 cups nuts  
Boil slowly, without stirring, sugar, spices, salt and water. When a fine thread forms when a portion of the syrup is poured from a spoon, add the nuts. Stir until well coated. Pour onto a buttered shallow pan or waxed paper. When cool, store in covered jar.

**Coconut Balls**  
3 cups granulated sugar  
1 cup milk  
1/2 cup cream  
1 teaspoon vanilla  
1 teaspoon almond extract  
1/2 cup coconut  
1/2 cup cherries  
Boil slowly, stirring frequently, the sugar, milk, cream and salt. When a soft ball forms when tested in cold water, remove from heat. Let stand 20 minutes, add extracts

and beat until creamy. Mix in the coconut. Drop on waxed paper, flatten each with a half-cherry.

### Oyster Stuffing

(For 10-pound turkey)  
12 cups bread cubes  
1/2 cup bacon fat  
1/2 cup chopped onions  
1 cup diced cooked celery  
2 tablespoons minced parsley  
1 teaspoon poultry seasoning

1/2 cup butter, melted  
2 cups small oysters  
1 teaspoon salt  
1/4 teaspoon pepper  
Cut bread slices into half-inch cubes, brown in the fat melted in a frying pan. Mix in onions and celery. Cover and simmer 5 minutes. Add to other ingredients, mix lightly.  
Make half this quantity for a five-pound duck or chicken.

Salem, Oregon  
Dec. 20, 1939.

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Thanks for the help Oldtimer.  
Sincerely your brother,  
JOE.

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