

Easy cheesecake recipe is a no-fail family classic

DEAR ABBY: Years ago, you published a recipe for cheesecake, which you said was very good. Well, it was not only “good” — it was **TERRIFIC**. As a native New Yorker, I know cheesecake.

I have moved and lost my recipe. Can you republish it? It's the best!

— **CHEESECAKE LOVER IN DELAND, FLA.**

DEAR LOVER: Thank you for the compliment. I'm glad to oblige. My mother made it — with either cherry or blueberry topping — and I have fond memories of raiding the refrigerator with her again and again for “just a smidgen” more! We both carried the sweet tooth gene, and I have many delightful memories of her dinner and dessert recipes, which comprise the Dear Abby cookbooklet set. Mama was a talented hostess and prepared them for dinner parties (so have I). For readers interested in ordering the set, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$16 (U.S. funds) to Dear Abby — Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. In addition to the recipes, there are tips on entertaining, and anyone who hasn't entertained before should be sure to read them. By following the suggestions, even the most nervous first-time host or hostess can be confident.

I hope you will enjoy making this cheesecake for many more years, because I serve it with pride.

ABBY'S CHEESECAKE CRUST:
1 1/2 cups graham cracker crumbs
1/2 cup butter, melted (1 stick)
1/3 cup powdered sugar
CHEESECAKE:
3 (8-ounce) packages cream cheese, softened
4 eggs
1 cup sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla
1 pint dairy sour cream (at room temperature)
1 (21-ounce) can prepared cherry, blueberry or strawberry pie filling
1. Heat oven to 350 degrees.
2. Combine graham cracker crumbs, powdered sugar and melted butter. Press into bottom of 8-inch springform pan.
3. In a large bowl, beat cream cheese, eggs, sugar and vanilla until smooth. Pour mixture over prepared crust.

4. Bake at 350 degrees for 50 minutes (until center is set).
5. Remove from oven and spread sour cream on top of cheesecake. Return to oven and bake an additional 5 minutes.
6. Remove from oven and allow to cool. Spread desired topping on cheesecake.
7. Chill overnight. Before serving, carefully remove sides from pan. Serves 16.

Tip: To minimize cracking, place shallow pan half full of hot water on lower rack of oven during baking. And be sure the sour cream is at room temperature when you spread it on.

DEAR ABBY: I'm getting married in a few months, and with all of the wedding planning, I have realized that in my fiancée's priorities, I come last, as do my opinions and desires.

We were supposed to go to a nice restaurant for his birthday, so I made reservations a month in advance. Yesterday (two days before his birthday) his parents decided they wanted to take him out to dinner to celebrate it. He immediately canceled our plans to go to the nice restaurant so he can have dinner with them.

I told him it seems like I always come last, and no matter what we plan, if his parents say go, he goes. He said that isn't true, but it is. Now that I realize I will never come first, I'm having doubts about marrying him.

When I told him we should hold off on getting married, he said we are not postponing the wedding, and we will get married on the date we picked. Although I express my feelings about postponing the wedding almost every day, I get nowhere. Now I feel like I'm being forced to marry someone I'm not sure I want to marry.

I'm not in a good emotional state, and I am constantly thinking of suicide. If I'm forced to marry someone I don't want to, how am I supposed to have a happy and healthy life?

— **MIXED UP IN THE MIDWEST**

DEAR MIXED UP: Because you are having suicidal thoughts, it is imperative that you talk with a mental health professional who can guide you back on track. Please do this right away! If you and your fiancée haven't had premarital counseling, insist upon it NOW. And absolutely postpone that wedding. Feeling as you do, and under these circumstances, you should not marry anyone.

U.S. and Russia hope for better ties

The Associated Press

SOCHI, Russia — Russia and the United States voiced hope Tuesday that badly strained relations could begin to improve despite wide differences on multiple fronts and deep mutual suspicion deepened by Russian meddling in American elections.

With tensions running high over Iran, Syria, Ukraine and Venezuela, Russian President Vladimir Putin claimed vindication from the investigation into Russia's interference in the 2016 U.S. presidential election and said he thought it was time to move on. Meanwhile, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo conveyed President Donald Trump's interest in restoring better ties.

In the highest-level face-to-face contact between the two countries since special counsel Robert Mueller's report was released last month, Putin told Pompeo he hoped relations with the U.S. would now improve.

Still, his claim of vindication covered only allegations that Russia and the Trump campaign colluded to hurt Hillary Clinton's candidacy. Putin did not address Mueller's conclusion that Russia actively interfered in the election.

“However exotic the work of special counsel Mueller was, I have to say that on the whole he has had a very objective investigation and he confirmed that there were no traces whatsoever of collusion between Russia and the incumbent administration, which we said was absolutely fake,” Putin said as he opened the meeting with Pompeo in the Black Sea resort of Sochi.

“As we said before there was no collusion from our government officials and it could not be there. Still, that was one of the reasons for the certain break in our inter-state ties,” he said. “I'm hoping today that the situation is changing.”

Though Putin said the Mueller report did not find collusion, the report explicitly notes that collusion is not a legal term and that prosecutors instead searched for evidence of a criminal conspiracy between the Trump campaign and Russia. Mueller's team ultimately concluded that the evidence did not establish such a conspiracy.

Pompeo did not specifically mention election meddling in his brief reply to Putin, although he did say the Trump administration would “protect our nation's interest.” Earlier, though, Pompeo made clear that

any repeat of the 2016 meddling would not be tolerated.

“Interference in American elections is unacceptable,” Pompeo told reporters at a news conference with Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov. “If Russia were to engage in that in 2020, it would put our relationship in an even worse place than it is. We have encouraged them not to. We wouldn't tolerate that. Our elections are important and sacred and they must be free and fair.”

After meeting with Putin, Pompeo told reporters: “So it's not about moving on. It's about trying to find solutions, compromises, places where there are overlapping interests you can make progress unlocking some of the most difficult problems that are facing us.”

Putin told Pompeo his recent telephone conversation with Trump raised hopes for an improvement in relations.

“As you know, not long ago, a few days ago, I had the pleasure of talking with the president of the United States by telephone,” he said. “For me, it created the impression that the president intends to restore Russian-American connections and contacts to resolve joint issues that present mutual interests.”

Pompeo spoke of “truly overlapping interests” that the two countries “can build on, and most importantly, President Trump very much wants to do that.” He cited cooperation in Afghanistan and counterterrorism more broadly, but also a shared goal of getting North Korea to abandon nuclear weapons. But he also told Putin that “just as you will, we'll protect our nation's interest.”

Venezuela was a key point of discussion and difference, with the U.S. firm in its commitment to support opposition figure Juan Guaidó as the country's legitimate leader and Russia equally firm in its backing of embattled President Nicolas Maduro.

Pompeo and Trump's national security adviser John Bolton have repeatedly accused Russia, along with Cuba, of propping up Maduro and demanded that Russian and other foreign troops, intelligence officers and security forces leave the country.

“On Venezuela, we have disagreement,” Pompeo said. “We want every country that's interfering in Venezuela to cease doing that.”

weather

TONIGHT	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
A couple of showers early	Cloudy with showers	A couple of showers	Overcast	Cloudy with a few showers
Baker City 44 Comfort Index™ 9	64 44 8	54 35 0	64 38 9	59 38 3
La Grande 49 Comfort Index™ 9	63 45 3	50 38 0	62 41 9	54 40 0
Enterprise 47 Comfort Index™ 10	60 44 5	49 38 0	58 38 8	52 39 0

Comfort Index takes into account how the weather will feel based on a combination of factors. A rating of 10 feels very comfortable while a rating of 0 feels very uncomfortable.

ALMANAC

TEMPERATURES	Baker City	La Grande	Elgin
High Monday	81°	79°	82°
Low Monday	39°	43°	40°
PRECIPITATION (inches)			
Monday	0.00	0.00	0.00
Month to date	0.00	Trace	0.04
Normal month to date	0.56	0.83	0.92
Year to date	4.47	7.22	16.96
Normal year to date	3.61	6.64	10.61

MONDAY EXTREMES

NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)
High: 105° Death Valley, Calif.
Low: 22° Burgess Junction, Wyo.
Wettest: 2.04" Cocoa, Fla.

OREGON
High: 89° Ontario
Low: 33° Meacham
Wettest: none

WEATHER HISTORY

A tornado on this date in 1968 cut a 65-mile path through Iowa. Charles City was hit the hardest with 13 deaths and \$30 million in damage.

SUN & MOON

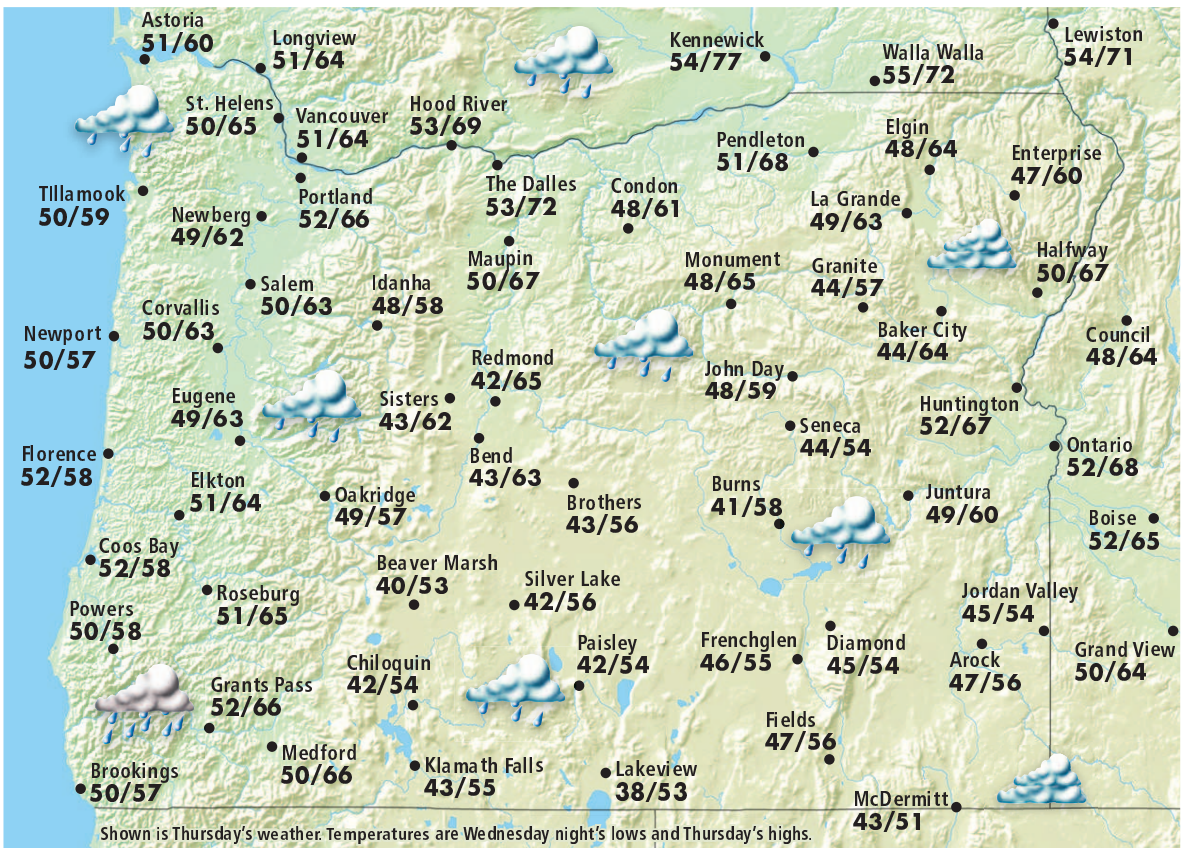
	WED.	THU.
Sunrise	5:23 a.m.	5:22 a.m.
Sunset	8:15 p.m.	8:16 p.m.
Moonrise	4:39 p.m.	5:53 p.m.
Moonset	4:07 a.m.	4:34 a.m.

MOON PHASES

Full	Last	New	First
			
May 18	May 26	Jun 3	Jun 9

AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2019



REGIONAL CITIES

City	THU. HI/Lo/W	FRI. HI/Lo/W
Astoria	60/49/sh	59/49/pc
Bend	63/42/sh	56/32/c
Boise	65/47/sh	56/44/sh
Brookings	57/46/r	53/47/pc
Burns	58/37/sh	56/31/c
Coos Bay	58/50/sh	58/46/pc
Corvallis	63/47/sh	62/44/pc
Council	64/46/sh	52/40/sh
Elgin	64/45/sh	49/38/sh
Eugene	63/45/sh	62/43/pc
Hermiston	75/52/sh	62/46/r
Hood River	69/53/sh	63/47/r
Imnaha	66/50/sh	55/44/sh
John Day	59/44/sh	51/35/sh
Joseph	60/43/sh	48/37/sh
Kennewick	77/55/sh	63/47/r
Klamath Falls	55/35/r	55/30/sh
Lakeview	53/33/sh	54/28/pc

RECREATION FORECAST THURSDAY

City	THU. HI/Lo/W	FRI. HI/Lo/W
Lewiston	71/54/sh	60/47/sh
Longview	64/50/c	61/47/r
Meacham	61/43/sh	46/38/sh
Medford	66/46/r	65/41/sh
Newport	57/49/sh	56/48/pc
Olympia	66/48/sh	62/43/r
Ontario	68/50/sh	61/43/sh
Pasco	78/55/sh	66/47/r
Pendleton	68/48/sh	56/43/sh
Portland	66/52/sh	65/48/sh
Powers	58/46/r	60/43/pc
Redmond	65/41/sh	59/30/c
Roseburg	65/47/sh	65/45/pc
Salem	63/47/sh	63/45/pc
Spokane	67/49/sh	55/45/sh
The Dalles	72/54/c	66/46/c
Ukiah	61/41/sh	48/33/sh
Walla Walla	72/50/sh	58/47/sh



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it's free and available at

