



The Never Fail Fruit Cake: A Timeless Recipe That Always Delivers

Description

Some recipes are more than instructions on a card – they’re heirlooms, memories wrapped in sweetness and spice. The **Never Fail Fruit Cake** is one of those treasures – a dessert that’s been passed down through generations, earning its name from the way it *always turns out perfect*.

Dense yet moist, rich with candied fruit, warm spices, and a buttery aroma that fills the kitchen, this cake is a holiday essential and a year-round treat. Whether you’re a seasoned baker or making fruit cake for the first time, this recipe truly lives up to its promise – it never fails.

Why This Fruit Cake Is Special

The beauty of this cake lies in its **balance**. It’s flavorful without being overpowering, moist without being heavy, and perfectly sweet without the cloying stickiness that some fruit cakes have. The blend of dried fruit, nuts, and a touch of warm spice makes every bite taste like celebration.

And the best part? It’s practically foolproof – easy to mix, easy to bake, and perfect every single time.

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Ingredients

For the Cake:

- 1 cup butter, softened
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 4 large eggs
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- ½ teaspoon nutmeg

- ½ teaspoon salt
- ½ cup milk
- 2 cups mixed dried fruit (raisins, currants, cherries, dates, or pineapple)
- 1 cup chopped nuts (pecans, walnuts, or almonds)
- ¼ cup brandy, rum, or orange juice (optional for soaking fruit)
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Optional Fruit Soak (for Extra Moisture & Flavor)

If time allows, soak the dried fruit in brandy, rum, or orange juice overnight. This softens the fruit and infuses it with flavor. If not, you can skip this step and still get amazing results – remember, this cake *never fails*!

How to Make the Never Fail Fruit Cake

1. Preheat the Oven

Set your oven to **325°F (160°C)**. Grease and line a loaf pan or round cake tin with parchment paper.

2. Cream the Butter and Sugar

In a large bowl, beat the butter and sugar together until fluffy and light. This is the foundation of a moist, tender cake.

3. Add the Eggs and Vanilla

Beat in the eggs one at a time, mixing well after each addition. Stir in the vanilla extract.

4. Combine the Dry Ingredients

In a separate bowl, whisk together flour, baking powder, cinnamon, nutmeg, and salt.

5. Mix It All Together

Gradually add the dry ingredients to the butter mixture, alternating with milk. Mix gently until smooth.

Fold in the dried fruit and nuts (and any leftover soaking liquid, if used).

6. Bake the Cake

Pour the batter into your prepared pan and smooth the top.

Bake for **1 hour 15 minutes to 1 hour 30 minutes**, or until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean.

7. Cool and Rest

Allow the cake to cool completely in the pan before removing it. This helps lock in the moisture.

Optional Finishing Touch

For a traditional finish, brush the cooled cake with a bit of brandy or rum, then wrap it in parchment paper and store in an airtight container. It will become even richer and more flavorful over time – perfect for gifting or enjoying during the holidays.

Tips for Success

- **Don't overmix** once the flour is added – that keeps the cake soft.
- **Use good-quality dried fruits** for the best flavor.
- **Store properly:** This cake keeps beautifully for weeks (and even improves in taste after a few days).

Why You'll Love This Cake

The **Never Fail Fruit Cake** isn't just a dessert – it's a symbol of comfort, reliability, and festive joy. Every slice is filled with colorful fruit, crunchy nuts, and the warmth of home baking. It's perfect for Christmas, weddings, family gatherings, or just when you want something special to share with a cup of tea.

One bite, and you'll understand why generations of bakers swear by it. It's the cake that truly never lets you down.

Category

1. Oven Recipes

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