

Mark's Mince Pies!





makes 12 mince pies



preparation: 30 mins cooking: 20 mins



shopping list ...

3509 Plain flour 1009 caster sugar 225 butter - cold 300g mincement a pinch of salt legg - for brushing icing sugar - for dusting



kitchen kit...

kitchen scales large mixing bowl knife - watch your fingers! 12 hole bun tin (or 2 x 6 hole ones) rolling pin teaspoon fork SMALL bOWL pastry brush cooling tray fine sieve



What to do ...

one:

pre-heat the oven to 180 (Gas Mark 4) and put the flour into your mixing bowl.

two:

cut the butter into small squares and add it to the flour.





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three:

Rub the flour and butter together using your fingers and thumbs until there are no big lumps and you have a breadcrumb mix - make sure you wash your hands first!

four:

Add the sugar to the bowl, and bring it all together into a ball - this may take a while to stick together but keep at it, and dont be tempted to add any liquid. Once it's in a ball, knead it together for 5 - 10 mins.



five:

Grease the bun tins with a little butter, then take ping-pong sized balls of the pastry, and roll them out on a floured surface so they are a little bigger than the bun tin hole. Place them into the holes, and press down gently so they are the right shape.

Six:

Spoon in a little mincemeat into each one, usually about a teaspoon full.





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Seven:

With the rest of your pastry, you can either roll small balls out again as before and place them on the top, or you can roll out the mixture and cut out shapes to places on top. I like stars!

eight:

Beat the egg in the small bowl using your fork, then using your pastry brush, brush a little egg over the tops of your Mince Pies. This will make them a lovely golden colour when they are cooking.

nine:

Bake in the oven for about 20 mins, then when they are ready, place them on a cooling tray. When they have cooled down completely, dust some icing sugar over the top using your sieve and enjoy.



