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Lemon Cake with Lemon Curd and Lemon Cream Cheese Frosting

By Susie Iventosch



Lemon cake with lemon curd and lemon cream cheese frosting Photo Susie Iventosch 3/4 cup milk

- 3 tablespoons fresh squeezed lemon juice
- 1 pint fresh strawberries for garnish

Lemon Cake

This lemon cake says "spring" especially when served with a complement of fresh strawberries. I make this cake with the tart Lisbon lemons (or Eureka) but if you happen to have Meyer lemons, give it a try. The lemon flavor would be a bit more subtle.

Ingredients

- 3/4 cup unsalted butter (11/2 sticks)
- 11/2 cups granulated sugar
- 3 large eggs, beaten
- 3 cups sifted all-purpose flour
- 1 1/8 teaspoon baking soda
- 3/4 teaspoon salt

Directions

Line two 8-inch diameter cake pans with waxed paper. Set aside. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

Beat sugar and butter in a large bowl until light and fluffy. Add the beaten eggs and mix well. Sift dries: flour, baking soda and salt into a separate bowl. Stir flour mixture into batter alternately with milk, beginning and ending with dry ingredients. Stir in lemon juice. Divide batter evenly into the prepared pans and bake about 25-30 minutes or until cake tester comes out clean. Cool cakes completely on cake racks.

To Assemble

Using a long serrated knife, cut each layer into horizontal halves and spread lemon curd over each half layer and frosting between whole layers and on top and sides of cake. Garnish cake or cake plate with whole or sliced strawberries.

Lemon curd

Ingredients

- 2 large eggs
- 6 tablespoons sugar
- 6 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
- 1/4 cup (1/2 stick) unsalted butter, cut into cubes
- 2 teaspoons finely grated lemon peel

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Directions

Whisk eggs and sugar in medium sauce pan. Add lemon juice, butter and lemon peel. Cook over medium-low heat, stirring all the while, until mixture begins to thicken and thermometer temperature reaches 165 degrees. Sauce will be thick enough to coat the back of a spoon. Remove from heat and transfer lemon curd to a clean bowl and cool. If the curd is lumpy, strain before chilling. When cooled, cover with plastic wrap directly on surface and chill until cold in refrigerator.

Lemon Cream Cheese Frosting

Ingredients

8 ounces cream cheese, at room temperature

1/2 cup (1 stick) unsalted butter, at room temperature

3 + cups powdered sugar

1-2 tablespoons lemon juice

Directions

Beat cream cheese and butter until light and fluffy and thoroughly mixed. Add half of the powdered sugar and beat well. Add lemon juice and beat well. Add remaining powdered sugar, enough to make frosting the desired consistency.

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