



Delicious Chocolate Chip Muffins

These delicious treats are perfect to make for parties, picnics or presents, or just because they are ever so nice. Eat them warm, not long after they have come out of the oven, when the chocolate chips are still melted and gooey, or if you can manage to resist them, store in an airtight container for another day.

You will need:


- 250 g (9 oz) self-raising flour
- ½ tsp salt • 100 g (4 oz) sugar
 - 200 ml milk • one egg
- 85 g (3 oz) butter or margarine
 - 85 g (3 oz) chocolate chips
 - 12 paper cases




Melt the butter (either in a microwave or in a bowl placed in hot water). Mix the butter, milk and egg in a large bowl.

Combine the flour, salt and sugar in a separate bowl from the wet ingredients. Make a well in the centre with a wooden spoon, and pour the wet liquid into it, mixing together well. Add the chocolate chips and stir.



 Spoon the mixture into the paper cases placed either in a muffin tin or on a baking tray. Fill each to about halfway. This mixture should fill a dozen cases.

 Place the muffins in an oven and bake at gas mark 6/ 200°C/400°F for 20 minutes or until they have risen and are a lovely golden colour.

Leave the muffins to stand for a few minutes and then remove them from the tin and cool on a wire rack.

Enjoy . . .



Mind-Reading With Mum

This trick requires two people to be ‘in the know’ – Mum will be the mind-reader, the other person will be her assistant. So Mum, select a partner and impress the rest of the family with your incredible mind-reading abilities.

The assistant stands in front of the audience, and Mind-reading Mum leaves the room. The assistant asks the members of the audience to choose an object in the room. They then tell the audience that Mind-reading Mum will return to the room and be able to ‘read’ which item has been chosen. Sure enough, she does.

HOW TO DO IT

In private, before the trick begins, the two performers must choose an item in the room, such as a table, to be their ‘anchor’ object. The mind-reader knows that the item that the audience selects will be the third thing that the assistant points to after pointing to the anchor.

For example, the performers choose a table as their anchor object. Mind-reading Mum leaves the room and the audience choose the TV as their object. Mind-reading Mum returns and the trick goes as follows:

Assistant: *Is the object I am thinking of the rug on the floor here?*

Mind-reading Mum: *No.*

Assistant: *Is it this table? (Anchor)*



Mind-reading Mum: *No.*

Assistant: *Am I thinking of this chair?* (First)

Mind-reading Mum: *No*

Assistant: *Am I concentrating on this vase?* (Second)

Mind-reading Mum: *No*

Assistant: *Is the object I am thinking of this TV?* (Third)

Mind-reading Mum: *Yes, it is.*

Great magicians develop a slick and witty banter and put on a dramatic and somewhat over-the-top performance. But what they never, ever do is reveal the secret of how their trick is done.

