German Chocolate Cake III

A spectacular German Chocolate cake made from scratch, using cake flour.

Ingredients

For the Cake

- ½ cup water
- 4 (1 ounce) squares German sweet chocolate
- 1 cup butter, softened
- 2 cups white sugar
- · 4 egg yolks
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- · 1 cup buttermilk
- 2 ½ cups cake flour
- · 1 teaspoon baking soda
- ½ teaspoon salt
- · 4 egg whites

For the Filling

- 1 cup white sugar
- 1 cup evaporated milk
- ½ cup butter
- · 3 egg yolks, beaten
- 1 1/3 cups flaked coconut
- 1 cup chopped pecans
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- ½ teaspoon shortening
- 1 (1 ounce) square semisweet chocolate

Instructions

Making the Cake

- 1. Preheat oven to 350°F (175°C). Grease and flour 3 9 inch round pans.
- 2. Sift together the flour, baking soda, and salt. Set aside.
- 3. Heat water and chocolate in a small saucepan until melted. Remove from heat and allow to cool.
- 4. Cream butter and sugar in a large bowl until light and fluffy. Beat in egg yolks one at a time. Blend in the melted chocolate mixture and vanilla.
- 5. Beat in the flour mixture alternately with buttermilk, mixing just until incorporated.
- 6. Beat egg whites in a separate bowl until stiff peaks form. Fold 1/3 of the whites into the batter, then fold in the remaining whites until no streaks remain.
- 7. Pour batter into prepared pans. Bake in the preheated oven for 30 minutes, or until a toothpick inserted into the center comes out clean.
- 8. Allow cakes to cool for 10 minutes in the pan, then turn out onto wire racks.

Making the Filling

- 1. In a saucepan, combine sugar, evaporated milk, butter, and egg yolks. Cook over low heat, stirring constantly until thickened.
- 2. Remove from heat. Stir in coconut, pecans, and vanilla. Cool until thick enough to spread.

Assembling the Cake

- 1. Spread filling between layers of the cooled cake and on top of the cake.
- 2. Melt shortening and chocolate in a small saucepan. Stir until smooth and drizzle down the sides of the cake.