

Old-Fashioned Sweet Shortcrust Pastry

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Prep Time: 20 min Level: Serves:

Inactive Prep Time: 30 min Easy about 2 pounds

Cook Time: -

Ingredients

- 3 1/2 cups organic all-purpose flour, plus extra for dusting
- 1 cup icing sugar, sifted
- 1 cup plus 2 tablespoons good-quality cold butter, cut into small cubes
- 1 lemon, zested
- 2 large free-range or organic eggs, beaten
- Splash milk
- · All-purpose flour, for dusting

Directions

Sift the flour from a height onto a clean work surface and sift the icing sugar over the top. Using your hands, work the cubes of butter into the flour and sugar by rubbing your thumbs against your fingers until you end up with a fine, crumbly mixture. This is the point where you can spike the mixture with interesting flavors, so mix in your lemon zest. Add the eggs and milk to the mixture and gently work it together until you have a ball of dough. Flour it lightly. Don't work the pastry too much at this stage or it will become elastic and chewy, not crumbly and short. Flour your work surface and place the dough on top. Pat it into a flat round, flour it lightly, wrap it in plastic wrap and put it into the refrigerator to rest for at least half an hour.

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