

# **CARROT CAKE SANDWICH COOKIES**

Oven temp: 180°C/350°F/Gas 4. Line 4 trays with baking paper

## What you need:

1 batch of our carrot cake base mix \*see below
220g butter, cubed (note 1)
2 TBS soft brown sugar
2 eggs size 7 @ room temperature
2 cups of finely grated carrot (juice firmly squeezed out)
2 tsp of orange zest
40g walnuts

#### Filling:

275g cream cheese (note 2) 275g icing sugar 2 tsp vanilla essence 1-2 TBS warm water

### To Make:

Measure out the Carrot Cake base recipe mix and sugar into a food processor. Process for about 45 seconds. You want the walnuts to be in smallish pieces. Add half the butter and pulse through in short bursts. Add the remaining butter and pulse again until the mix just begins to come together. Add the eggs and pulse again in short bursts to combine. Tip the mix into a large bowl. Add the carrot and orange zest and stir through until well mixed. Chill the dough for 20 minutes. Roll a heaped tsp of dough (32g) into a ball, place on the tray. Repeat until all the dough is used up. Space them out, 8 to a tray. The mix is a little sticky so cover each ball with a small piece of greaseproof paper to gently flatten with a flat bottom plate to about 4-5mmthick. You want to keep them in a nice round even shape for when you sandwich them together later. Pop the trays into the fridge again for 30 minutes. Bake two trays at a time for 10 minutes, swap them around and bake for a further 10 minutes. If they still feel a little soft, bake for a further 2-3 minutes. Remove from the oven and cool for 5 minutes before transferring to a cooling tray. Continue to bake the other two trays. To make the filling: Add all the ingredients into a large bowl and whisk together with electric beaters.

When the cookies are completely cold, spread 2 tsp of the cream cheese onto flat side of half the cookies. Sandwich together with remaining cookies.

Makes 16 sandwiched cookies. Best eaten the day they are made.

## Note:

- 1. For dairy free use non dairy spread of choice. Eg. Nuttelex Buttery
- 2. For dairy free, replace the cream cheese with non dairy cheese of choice. I use Angel Food brand.

**Tip:** If you are not eating all the cookies at once, wrap plain cookies in clingfilm and pop them into the freezer, cover the filling and it will keep fresh in the fridge for a week. Let cookies defrost for 10 minutes before you sandwich together. If you want mini bite size cookies roll about 16g of cookie dough then bake as above.

## **CARROT CAKE BASE MIX:**

270g of our everyday flour mix
60g ground almonds
1 ½ level tsp guar gum
¾ level tsp gf baking soda
¼ tsp gf baking powder
3 tsp gf ground cinnamon
2 tsp gf ground ginger
1 tsp each of gf nutmeg and mixed spice
40g finely chopped walnuts (optional)