Chewy Molasses Spelt Cookies

Vegan, nut-free

By Angela Liddon

With crispy edges and chewy middles, these are hard to resist. The candied ginger is optional, so no worries if you don't have any. I made the first batch without candied ginger and the second with it. I think I prefer the version without the candied ginger as they were a bit less sweet. If you want to cut back on the sugar, omit the candied ginger and the optional rolling in sugar. Either way, they'll be a nice treat no matter which way you make them!

Yield	Prep Time	Cook time
1 dozen cookies	15 Minutes	12 Minutes

Ingredients:

1/2 tablespoon ground flax mixed with 2 tablespoons water

1/4 cup vegan butter

1/4 cup natural cane sugar

2 tablespoons blackstrap molasses

2 tablespoons pure maple syrup

1/2 teaspoon pure vanilla extract

1 teaspoon ground ginger

1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon

1/2 teaspoon baking soda

1/4 teaspoon fine grain sea salt

1/4 teaspoon ground cloves

1 & 1/4 cups light spelt flour

1/4 cup diced candied ginger (optional)

2-3 tablespoons sugar, for rolling (optional)

Directions:

- 1. Preheat oven to 350F. Line 1 large baking sheet with parchment paper.
- 2. Mix flax and water in a mug and set aside for a few minutes. Stir to combine.
- 3. In a large bowl, beat together the butter, sugar, molasses, syrup, vanilla, and flax mixture until smooth and combined.
- 4. In the same bowl, beat in one-by one, the dry ingredients (ginger, cinnamon, soda, salt, cloves, and flour) until just combined. Be sure not to overmix.
- 5. Fold in diced candied ginger if using (or skip this step).
- 6. Shape dough into small balls and roll in a bowl of sugar (optional). Place balls 2 inches apart on the cookie sheet. Carefully flatten ball slightly with hand so it's about 1/2 inch thick.
- 7. Bake cookies for 12 minutes for a crispier cookie, or 10 minutes for a softer cookie (I did 12). Cool on the pan for 5 minutes before transferring to a cooling rack for another 10-15 minutes. Enjoy!

Notes: 1) You can probably swap the light spelt flour for all-purpose flour if desired. 2) This recipe can be doubled if you desire 24 cookies instead of 12. 3) I used a combo of cane sugar and turbinado sugar for rolling (the turbinado makes it really crunchy), but you can use all cane sugar if you prefer.