

Enter our cookbook contest

Just complete the following trivia quiz and submit to *The Independent & Free Press* before 4 p.m. Dec. 8. Eight entries will be randomly chosen from all correct submissions to win a copy of *Company's Coming's Most Loved Treats*. Include your name, address and daytime telephone number. One entry per person. E-mail your answers to: contest@independentfreepress.com, or fax to 905-873-0398, or drop them off at *The Independent & Free Press*.

Cookbook Quiz Trivia

1. When should you serve Date Cake?
 - a) When your new date is waiting for you to get ready. If he chews with his mouth open, cancel the date!
 - b) When you want a rich and delicious cake that's moist to eat and freezes well.
 - c) When you're 38 years old and never kissed a girl.
2. What are Millionaire Squares?
 - a) A new celebrity game show on the Food Network.
 - b) Donald Trump's favourite snack while watching episodes of *The Apprentice*.
 - c) A popular square that is very rich in chocolate flavour.
3. What's unique about Cheesy Cupcakes?
 - a) The main ingredient is moldy cheese and lots of it!
 - b) They have a built-in topping, so there's no need for icing.
 - c) It's what the City Mouse serves to the Country Mouse with tea on weekends.
4. Noodle Power is:
 - a) A recipe for chocolate-covered cookies.
 - b) A resistance group against low-carb diets.
 - c) Jean Paré's new daytime talk show.
5. What are Poached Maple Pears?
 - a) A treat that is illegal in eight provinces, along with maple tree hunting.
 - b) A great hibernation snack in mid-winter for bears.
 - c) Pears poached in maple syrup and port wine.

6. What are the first two titles in the *Most Loved* series?
 - a) *Most Loved Appetizers* and *Most Loved Main Courses*.
 - b) *Most Loved Ways to Gain 30 Pounds in 30 Days* and *Most Loved Ways to Lose 30 Pounds in 30 Days*.
 - c) *Most Loved Ways to Use Salt & Pepper* and *Most Loved Ways to Use Water*.
7. What Canadian honour has Jean Paré achieved this year?
 - a) She won the Loonie Toonie award, which sounds great, but in reality it's only worth \$3.
 - b) She was a runner-up for the Great White North Back Bacon & Beer award.
 - c) She was appointed a Member of the Order of Canada.
8. Which alternate name do Swedish Tea Cakes also go by?
 - a) Chinese rice cakes
 - b) Belgium waffles
 - c) French fries
 - d) Thumbprints
9. What are Hermits?
 - a) Easy-to-bake drop cookies.
 - b) Ladies' gloves.
 - c) No one's sure because you only see them once a year when they get hungry enough to come out of seclusion.
10. How many cookbooks have been published in the *Company's Coming* series.
 - a) 10 1/2
 - b) 230
 - c) More than 100.

The annual must-have wish list for the cook

As the Christmas season approaches, it is time for the cooks in the family to prepare a wish list for when you are asked what you want for Christmas.

What's cookin'?

Lori Gysel
Gerry Kentner



I recently attended the annual William Ashley Warehouse Sale, where I was exposed to a plethora of china, serving pieces, a multitude of kitchen items, glassware, linens, appliances, candles, Christmas decorations and much, much more.

It got me thinking about what I would suggest in serving pieces for preparing and entertaining. There are certain pieces that are important to have from my experience in entertaining, cooking and catering.

Here is my list of must-haves for kitchen and dining room:

- good knives (a chef's knife, paring knife and boning knife are the top three needs— all the rest are unnecessary)
- food processor (Cuisinart is my preference)
- a good large non-stick frying pan
- a dutch oven (large pot for stove top and oven use for chili, stew, stocks, soups)
- a large salad bowl (for when there is lots of company)
- large serving platters for turkey, roasts, etc.
- small serving dishes for sauces and condiments
- whisk
- wooden spoon
- spatula (heat resistant)
- good serving utensils (salad servers, spoons, tongs, ladles, meat fork)
- gravy boat (works great for salad dressings too!)

Many of these items are inexpensive and

could even be hostess gifts during the holidays or gifts from the children. Not all of your dishes and serving pieces have to match, but they should compliment one another. Something to think about is what colour

tablecloth provides the best background for your china and shows off your food the best? At Gerry's house, white works best for her china, at Lori's house a dark colour like green is best. Depends on your china.

And, one more tip— use your good dishes and serving pieces. Use them every day! Don't let them sit on your shelf and waste. Share them with your family and friends. Meatloaf is a special meal when presented well.

Have fun and keep cooking!

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Pecan Pie

Ingredients

- 2 eggs
- 1/3 cup sugar
- 1 cup corn syrup
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1 tbsp flour
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 1 1/2 cups pecans (chop the pecans if making tarts, leave whole for pie)
- 1 pie shell (9")

Method

1. Mix all ingredients together well.
2. Pour into pie shell.
3. Bake in a 350 F. oven for approximately 45-60 minutes.



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