The Feasts for Families The Spring Feasts

A thematic unit for learning about and celebrating Passover through Shavuot

HOW TO MAKE AND BRAID CHALLAH BREAD

The Feasts for Families

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Challah Recipe

Contributed by Dr. Kimberly Goldman from www.familynatural.com

Ingredients:

- 1-3/4 cup water
- 1/3 cup oil
- 2/3 cup honey
- 1-1/2 Tablespoon yeast
- 2-1/2 teaspoon salt
- 3 eggs, plus another beaten egg set aside for brushing on later (4 eggs total)
- 7-8 cups freshly ground whole wheat flour
- 1/4-1/2 cup raisins

Directions:

- 1. Combine water, oil, honey and yeast, and 3 eggs.
- 2. Add half the flour and salt, mix. Add the rest of the flour and knead until smooth and elastic (about 10-15 mins by hand or about 5-6 mins in KitchenAid stand mixer).
- 3. Let rise till doubled. Shape, adding raisins if desired.
- 4. Brush with beaten egg, let rise until doubled again.
- 5. Bake at 325 degrees for about 25 mins. Brush again with beaten egg for the last 5 mins of baking.

This recipe makes 2 small loaves (usually a regular 3 braid) or one large (4 or 6 braid).



Braiding Challah

There are many ways to braid a challah loaf. One favorite way is with four strands. Here are some directions. Try it!

- 1. Make four equally sized balls of dough.
- 2. Roll each one into a long strand.
- 3. Lay the strands out, side by side, and then pinch the tops together.
- 4. Grab the strand farthest to the right and slide it **under** the two strands on its left. (It is now in the #2 position.)
- 5. Take that same strand and twist it **over** the strand on its right. (Now it is in the #3 position.)
- 6. Repeat, but starting with the strand on the far left (slide under two, twist back over one).
- 7. Keep repeating this pattern until you get to the end of the loaf.
- 8. Tuck the ends under at the top and bottom of the loaf.