chocolate chunk gingerbread cookies

INGREDIENTS

1½ cups plus 1 Tablespoon all-purpose flour

1 1/4 teaspoon ground ginger

- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cloves
- 1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 1 Tablespoon unsweetened Dutch-process cocoa powder
- 1 stick (½ cup) unsalted butter, room temperature
- 1 Tablespoon freshly grated fresh ginger
- ½ cup packed dark brown sugar
- 1/4 cup unsulfured molasses
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1½ teaspoons boiling water
- 7 ounces semi-sweet chocolate, cut into ¼ inch chunks
- 1/4 cup granulated sugar

MAKES 2 DOZEN COOKIES

DIRECTIONS

TO MAKE THE DOUGH:

- 1. In a medium bowl, sift the flour, ground ginger, cinnamon, cloves, nutmeg and cocoa powder together.
- 2. In the bowl of an electric mixer fitted with a paddle attachment, beat the butter and grated ginger until creamy, about 4 minutes. Add the brown sugar and beat until combined. Then add the molasses and beat until combined.
- 3. In a small bowl, dissolve the baking soda in boiling water.
- 4. Beat in half the flour mixture into the butter mixture. Beat in the baking soda, then the remaining flour.
- 5. Fold the chocolate chunks into the cookie dough. It should resemble chocolate ice cream.
- 6. Place the dough on a piece of plastic wrap and pat it into a round about 1 inch thick. Wrap completely and place in the refrigerator for at least 2 hours to overnight.

TO MAKE THE COOKIES:

- 1. Preheat your oven to 325° and line two baking sheets with parchment paper.
- 2. Roll the dough into 24 1½ inch balls. Refrigerate for 20 minutes.
- 3. Remove the balls from the refrigerator and roll them in the granulated sugar. Place them 2 inches apart on the baking sheet.
- 4. Bake each sheet separately for 10 to 12 minutes, rotating the pan halfway through. They are ready when the surface begins to crack slightly.
- 5. Remove the cookies from the oven and cool for 5 minutes before transferring to a wire rack to cool completely.