Homemade Dehydrator Beef Jerky

Doesn’t everyone like Beef Jerky? I know my family does & when you go to buy it in the store it is just so darn expensive, so being I have an large amount of beef in my freezer why not make my own Homemade Dehydrator Beef Jerky?

Years ago I bought my son a dehydrator, together he and I have used it a number of times to make beef jerky, so I borrowed it from him to make my own beef jerky. Years ago when I would make it I would buy the packets from Farm & Fleet, but boy have they went up in price, I proceeded to find my own recipe online and try that. Thank you for Pinterest!!

I sliced up a large round steak & I also happen to have a round roast, I ended up with 2 1/2 pounds of thin sliced beef.
Sliced Round Steak & Round Roast

I found a homemade marinade beef jerky recipe that I used the ingredients were Worcestershire Sauce, Soy Sauce, Liquid Smoke, Fresh Ground Pepper Corns, Crushed Red Pepper Flakes, Onion Powder & 1 Tablespoon of Honey.

Homemade Beef Jerky Ingredients
Mix the above ingredients together and place meat in bowl and pour the marinade over and mix into meat, place in plastic sealed bag or glass dish and let marinade for 6 hours. After the 6 hours place on the dehydrator and let it cook for as long as needed. I actually let it cook over night (8 hours), the thinner the cut of meat the less it has to cook.

I also made another batch of Beef Jerky but for this one I used a store purchased Beef Jerky packet, I honestly thought the homemade beef jerky marinade I made had a better flavor. I know it was a great treat for all my company at Christmas because there is very little left and it is something I plan to make again next year.

I have been really busy, crafting, scrapbooking, decorating and wrapping gifts. I have been especially busy this week with the Christmas Baking Goodies, I make a lot of different cookies and bars.

I had plans to decorate my sugar cookies really beautiful this year, but I have to tell you, I sure give credit to those that take the time and have the patience to decorate their cookies so expertly. I tried but could only manage to do a few, the picture above is a sample of the few I did take time to do.

I do want to share one of my favorite Christmas Baking Goodies that I only make at Christmas time. This is a recipe I received from my neighbor’s sister-in-law about 30 years ago, I know if you make it you will really enjoy it.

Caramel Layer Bars!
Caramel Layer Bars

As you can see this recipe has been repeatedly used and enjoyed.

The ingredients are a boxed German Chocolate Cake Mix mixed with 1/3 cup of evaporated milk, 3/4 Cup melted butter and 1/2 Cup Chopped Nuts, this mixture should be thick.

Put 1/2 cake mixture on bottom of greased 9 X 13 cake pan. Bake that for 6 minutes. Remove from oven and sprinkle 12 oz of chocolate chips on top and spread caramel mixture over chips and crumble or spoon remaining cake mixture over the top of other mixture and bake for 15 minutes at 350 degrees.
Chocolate Chips & Caramel Mixture over cake mixture.

Topped with remaining cake mixture.
I have always loved baking and making goodies for my family and every year I try to make a new recipe each year. Do you have a favorite recipe that you make every year for Christmas? I know everyone has their favorites and also their traditional recipes, mine is my mother’s sugar cookie, what is yours?

Caramel Layer Bars
2016-12-20 20:08:23
Serves 9

Write a review
Save Recipe
Print
Prep Time
20 min
Cook Time
25 min
Total Time
45 min
Prep Time
20 min
Cook Time
25 min
Total Time
45 min
Ingredients

1. 12-14 oz Kraft Caramels
2. 1/3 Cup Evaporated Milk
3. 1 Box German Chocolate Cake Mix
4. 1/3 Cup Evaporated Milk
5. 3/4 Cup Melted Butter
6. 1/2 Cup Chopped Nuts

Melt over low heat: Caramels & 1/3 Cup Evaporated Milk

1. Mix Together while caramels are melting: German Chocolate Cake Mix, 1/3 Cup Evaporated Milk,
2. 3/4 Cup Melted Butter & 1/2 Cup Chopped Nuts (optional).
3. Note: Mixture should be thick.
4. Put 1/2 of cake mixture on bottom of greased 9 X 13 pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 6 minutes. Remove from oven and sprinkle 1-12oz bag of chocolate chips over mixture, then spread caramel mixture over chips and crumble or spoon on remaining 1/2 of cake mixture. Bake at 350 degrees for 15 minutes. Cool & cut into squares.

Grammes Country Splendor https://grammescountrysplendor.com/ 

Are You Overwhelmed?


Are You Overwhelmed?
This time of year can have each of us overwhelmed, is that how you are feeling right now. Are you overwhelmed with buying just the right gift? Are you overwhelmed with having enough money to buy those gifts? Are you overwhelmed with all that has to be done before the company shows up?

I know every year I get that overwhelmed feeling, it seems like December 1st shows up and pow all of a sudden it is December 20th and I still have so much to do. I don’t know why I allow myself to get that “Are You Overwhelmed,” feeling because I always seem to get it done.
The saddest part about it is, do we get so involved in the Christmas shopping, the baking, the decorating, the Christmas Programs or the parties, that we forget the real reason we even have Christmas? Let’s try to take some time to get focused back on the wonderful glory of Christmas!!

As a child growing up it was all about the presents, a few years we went to church on Christmas, that was when we would go to my Aunt Delores’ and Uncle Arnold’s in Superior, Wisconsin for Christmas, otherwise there was no focus whatsoever on the real meaning of Christmas.

I want my grandkids growing up knowing why Christmas is even a holiday, why we should not just think it is for all the fun that comes with the the holiday season. I want them to know it is CHRISTMAS, not just a holiday, and that is more then just a holiday!

If you don’t know the reason for Christmas, let me share it with you!

Matthew 1:23 Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son,
and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

That virgin was Mary who was engaged to Joseph, the Holy Spirit of God came upon her and Luke 1:30 And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. 1:31 And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. 1:32 He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David:

That same baby who we see so often depicted in our nativity scenes is the same baby that grew into manhood as God planned and died on the cross for each of us, for our sins. That was the whole plan that the baby would grow and die for each of us, that we could have salvation through the repentance of our sin.

Don’t let the season just be about presents, delicious cookies, decorating or even spending time with family, but if you don’t know the Lord Jesus as your Saviour take this time now to accept him into your life. Are you overwhelmed? Maybe this time of year is very difficult for you because it represents some very sad memories, let the Lord carry that burden for you.
Greenery with Christmas scripture, Isaiah 9

John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Merry Christmas To You

Deals For Everyone
Still looking for a unique gift for someone special, check out Living Socials, there are Deals For Everyone!

You will find deals that will meet so many areas, whether it be for a birthday party or for a Christmas gift or just a special time for yourself.

Living Socials offers deals and discounts on things to do in your city or a city near you, looking for deals and discounts for restaurants, family outings, personal fitness and more.

Have you ever wanted a massage? Living Socials has discounts on massage services.

Yesterday when I was going through my emails I came across one from Living Socials offering a discounts on admissions to a Holiday Tour in St. Paul, Minnesota. This is the time of year when the lights are shining throughout many towns and who doesn’t enjoy a beautiful Christmas light show!
Go to Living Socials, sign up, look for that city near you and search out the deals and discounts that are offered. Don’t miss out on a deal for getting those Christmas Card made up or that special personal photo items made for a special one in your life.

Are you traveling soon? Living Socials offers deals and discounts at top destinations for Atlantic City, the Caribbean, Colorado, Las Vegas, Hawaii and Texas for a few, so go to Living Socials and check out more they have to offer.
Caribbean Deals & Discounts at Living Socials

Don’t miss out on those deals and discounts, make sure to sign up on Living Socials, click on the link below and find yourself a great deal, there are so many options. Living Socials has a “Good Deal Guarantee,” they want you confident with your purchase, they want you to go away smiling!!

Did you check out Living Socials? Have you signed up?

Living Socials: https://login.livingsocial.com/signup/
I really enjoy decorating for Christmas and I try to do it on a budget, because of where I live and a budget it is a real challenge. I have to drive an hour to get to my favorite store, Hobby Lobby.

For a number of years now I have decorated with snowmen, but this year I was trying to change it up a bit. I decided to go a candy cane theme in the kitchen and dining room, well at least red and white. I was having a hard time located anything candy cane related, so I had to do with what I had or could
find cheaply.

The lantern I bought a few years ago at a flea market for $15.00, which I thought was a pretty good buy for what I see they cost. I put some fake snow in it, with red and white ornaments and a set of Micro 60 LED Super Bright Rope Lights, that I bought on Amazon.

The wrapped packages are just empty boxes wrapped in red and candy cane paper with white wire ribbon. The ribbon I bought at Hobby Lobby at half price so I got a 90 foot spool for less then $4.00. A super cheap decoration! And the red & white snow man I have had for a while, I bought it at a garage sale. The tree is decorated with mini red bulbs and tiny candy canes, and yes, you guessed it I bought them ornaments at Hobby Lobby, but have had the tree for years.

The garland is made from 21” red & white Metallic Deco Mesh Ribbon. I bought this at Hobby Lobby at the end of the Christmas season last year at 80% off so I probably paid less then $3.00 for the whole roll. So follow along for the instructions on how to make the mesh garland.

Using red aluminum wire, which probably works the best, but I
didn’t have any so I used green floral wire and tripled it so I had enough strength and twisted it together. Then twist red Chenille Stems, pipe cleaners to us oldies, securely around the wire. I measured every 8” for placing the stems.

Chenille Stems measured every 8”.

Chenille Stems wrapped around triple floral wire.
Measure your mesh to the length of the wire, if you want tails cut it longer then the wire. Fold up your mesh, gather it like accordion style and wrap the chenille stem tightly around the mesh, pouf it up some and gather it again at the next stem, gather, pouf & attach. If you want more layers just do the process over the first layer of mesh. When finished adding the mesh, twist the stems to the back to hide them.

Accordion style gather of mesh.

Gathered and twisted with stem.
I didn’t have the wide white mesh so I just used the narrow white and gathered it and secured it on, I am sure it would have looked nicer if I would have used the same width as the red, but that is how it goes when you are making a budget candy cane garland with what you have available.

How were the instructions, were they easy to follow and did you make a garland for yourself?

Hobby Lobby:  


---

Where You Find A Treasure

Where You Find A Treasure
Back in October when I went to Ashland to visit a dear friend of mine she introduced me to a few special shops, just the kind of place Where You Find A Treasure!

It seems like every small town has at least one special store where you can find a special item, something that you know someone special will really enjoy and the “New England Store,” had so many special items to pick from. That was in the fall, I can’t imagine what they offer now for the Christmas Season, I am sure they have many wonderful special gifts available.

As you are preparing for Christmas whether it be a gift or decorating your home it takes a lot of time and effort, but why not stop into The New England Store in Ashland, WI and while you are there visit a few of the other shops in town.

When I was there I found that the New England Store offered a children’s section, seasonal items, jewelry and if you are looking for a gift for a special religious ceremony or just a gift for a spiritual encouragement.
The New England Store also offers a selection of homemade mittens to keep those hands warm in the cold weather. There is just so much to see at this great store. A store with history, the building has been there since 1888, this store had been a bank at one time and actually has a bank vault in it to this day.

Check the New England Store out on Facebook and you will find their hours and some of the latest items in the store, some great Christmas items, I wish I could make a trip up there to do a little shopping at the New England Store and the other great shops in Ashland, Wisconsin.


Ashland Historical Buildings: http://www.visitashland.com/events/ashland-architec-tour/

I look forward to your comments, how is your Christmas shopping going? Have you found all the treasures you have been searching for?