

opening extract from the quick and easy cookbook for kids

roz denny and caroline waldegrave

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Waldegrave.

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For Felicity and Clemmie R.D.

For Katie, Liza, Jamie and Harriet C.W.

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COOKBOOK FOR KIDS

Roz Denny and Caroline Waldegrave



Basic Skills

Shortcrust Pastry

Crumbly pastry is hard to handle, but it tastes much nicer once baked than pastry that is wet and easier to handle.

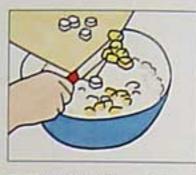
Makes 300 g of pastry



Rub the fat into the flour with your fingertips. Lift your hands high and drop the fat back into the bowl to trap air.

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You will need: 200 g plain flour pinch of salt 30 g lard or vegetable shortening 70 g butter or margarine very cold water



Sift the flour with the salt into a mixing bowl. Cut the lard and butter into 1 cm cubes and add to the flour.



Mix to a firm ball of dough. Wrap the dough completely in clingfilm and chill for 30 minutes before using.

To Separate an Egg

Sometimes you will need just egg yolks or just egg whites for a recipe. This is how you separate one from the other.



1 You will need 2 clean bowls. Hold the egg in one hand and crack it sharply across the middle against one of the bowls.



2 Gently pull the shell apart, keeping the yolk in one half and letting the white fall into the bowl.



Carefully tip the yolk from one half-shell to the other, letting the rest of the white drop into one of the bowls.



4 Use the broken edge of the empty shell to cut off any white that won't fall. Drop the yolk into the other bowl.



If you need to separate more eggs, use two bowls per egg in case you make a mistake, and add them together.

To Chop an Onion

Once they are peeled, onions can be slippery and hard to chop, so use your knife very carefully.



When the mixture

looks like coarse

breadcrumbs, add 2 to 3

may need to add more.

tablespoons of water. You

Slice the onion lengthwise through the core. Peel both halves. Do not remove the root.



Put one half on the chopping board. With a sharp knife make a series of parallel cuts down.



Make a series of cuts at right angles to the previous set to chop the onion into little pieces.

To Make Fresh Breadcrumbs

One slice of bread makes about 1 thsp or 25 g of breadcrumbs. The bread should be about 4 days old. Cut the crusts off and chop finely in a food processor.

To Grate the Zest of Fruit

The zest of an orange or lemon is just the coloured part of the skin. Wash the fruit and grate it on the finest holes of the grater. Take care not to grate the white pith. Be careful of your fingers.