Peanut Butter Pie

Origin: "Baked" by Matt Lewis and Renato Poliafito Yield: 10 to 12 slices Prep Time: 1 hour Cooking Time: 15 minutes Inactive Prep Time: 4 hours, or chill overnight Difficulty: Easy

Ingredients:

For the Chocolate Cookie Crust

- 6 ounces chocolate wafer cookies, (I used Trader Joe's Chocolate Cat Cookies)
- 1 tbsp sugar
- 6 tbsp unsalted butter, melted

For the Peanut Butter filling

- 1/2 cup (3 ounces) semisweet chocolate chips
- 1/2 tsp organic light corn syrup
- 8 ounces cream cheese, at room temperature
- 1 cup creamy peanut butter
- 2 tbsp vanilla extract
- 3/4 cup dark brown sugar, firmly packed
- 1 1/2 cups heavy cream

For the easy Hot Fudge Sauce

- 6 ounces milk chocolate, finely chopped
- 6 ounces dark chocolate, finely chopped
- 1 cup heavy cream
- 1/4 cup organic light corn syrup

Directions:

Make the chocolate cookie crust:

In a food processor, grind the cookies to a very fine powder. You should have about $1 \frac{1}{2}$ cups. Put the crumbs in a bowl and stir in the sugar.

Pour the butter over the crumb mixture and mix until well combined. The mixture will feel wet. Turn the crumb mixture out into a 9-inch pie plate and press it into the bottom and up the sides. You can use the back of a large spoon to even out the crust.

Put the crust in the refrigerator while you make the filling.

Make the peanut butter filling with chocolate bottom:

Melt the chocolate chips in a microwave oven or in a double broiler. Add the corn syrup and stir to combine. Use a spatula to spread the chocolate in a thin layer on the bottom of the chilled pie crust. Put the crust back in the refrigerator while you make the peanut butter filling.

Put the cream cheese, peanut butter, vanilla, and brown sugar in the bowl of an electric mixer fitted with the paddle attachment. Beat on medium speed until well combined and completely smooth. Set aside. In a clean bowl, use the mixer fitted with the whisk attachment to whip the cream until soft peaks form. Remove the bowl from the mixer and, with a rubber spatula, gently fold the whipped cream into the peanut butter mixture until the mixture is uniform in color.

Pour the mixture into the prepared crust and freeze for at least 4 hours, or overnight. Once the pie is frozen, you can cover it with aluminum foil and freeze for up to 3 days.

Make the easy hot fudge sauce:

Place both chocolates in a medium heatproof bowl and set aside.

In a small saucepan, bring the cream to a simmer over medium heat. Add he corn syrup and stir to combine. Remove form the heat and pour over the chocolates. Let the mixture sit for 2 minutes. Starting in the center of the bowl and working your way out to the edges, whisk the chocolate mixture in a circle



until completely smooth. The hot fudge sauce, cooled to room temperature and covered tightly, will keep for 3 days in the refrigerator. Rewarm the sauce in a microwave oven on medium heat for 30 seconds, stir, and repeat until the sauce is warm; or reheat it in a small saucepan over low heat. Place a frozen piece of pie on a large serving plate and spoon 3 heaping tablespoons of the warm sauce directly over the top of the pie. Eat and enjoy immediately.