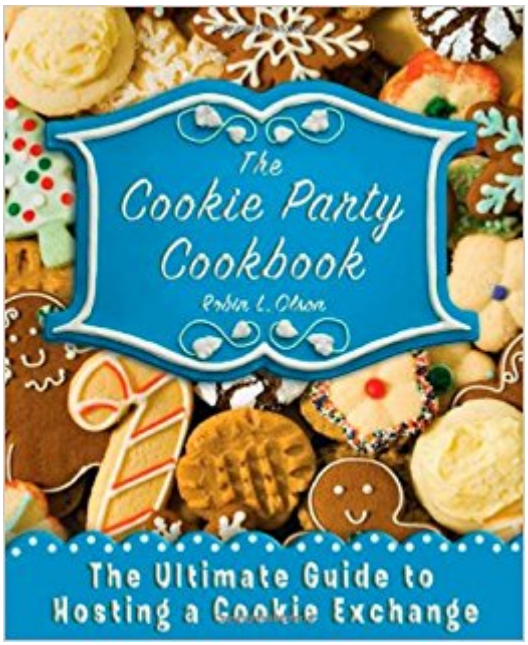
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# The Cookie Party Cookbook: The Ultimate Guide To Hosting A Cookie Exchange




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## Synopsis

The country’s biggest promoter of the cookie swapping party writes the ultimate cookie recipe book, with ideas, tips and organizing plans for anyone to throw the best baking event ever.Robin OlsonÃ Â popularized the cookie swap: a party where a group of people get together, bringing a large quantity of a favorite recipe or two of their own and trade with other guests so that each attendee leaves with enough variety boxes of cookies and bars to give out as gifts, care packages, camp mailings, etc.Ã Â Included in COOKIE PARTY:--176 recipes for classic and fun cookies, bars, no-bakes and simple candies (such as Peppermint Pinwheel Cookies, Butterscotch Bars, Lemon Melting Moments,Ã Â Cappuccino Bonbons, etc.)--Tips for entertaining a room full of bakers with savories, drinks and sweets--Ideas for festive packaging--Shipping troubleshooting ideas--Recipe index--Inspiration for coming up with your own cookies, displaying your special chef’s touchTo view full color photos of the cookies featured in this book, go to cookie-exchange.com

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Robin L. Olson, aka "The Cookie Exchange Queen", started her website, cookie-exchange.com, more than 10 years ago and has built it into the category go-to site, with more than 1.5 million unique visitors each year. She’s been featured in a variety of media, from the cover of Country Woman magazine to the New York Times and the Food Network. She lives in Gaithersburg, Maryland.

The Cookie ExchangeThis page intentionally left blankWhat Is a Cookie Exchange?Many hands make light work,Ã¢â ¬Â• as the old saying goes. That is the essence of an old-fashioned cookie exchange.To host a cookie exchange, you invite a group of friends, relatives, and neighbors over to your house to exchange homemade cookies. Every person brings about six dozen of one type of cookie. The cookies are laid out on the dining room table and exchanged. The result is that everyone goes home with an assortment of six dozen different types of cookies. The recipes are also swapped, so that if you take home a new cookie that you really like, you will be able to make it yourself. The cookie party can be given at any time during the year; however, most cookie exchange parties occur in December.There are as many ways and reasons to host a cookie exchange party as there are people who give them. The party could be hosted as a one-time-only event, every couple of years, or annually. The majority who host a party for the first time are looking forward to making it an annual tradition for their friends and family. We all lead such busy lives, and a cookie exchange is a great time to reconnect with people you may not see on a regular basis.Even though most cookie exchanges are given during the holidays, which is by far busiest season of year, itÃ¢â ¬â„¢s still the best time of year to do this party. On top of Ã¢â ¬Å“normal life,Ã¢â ¬Â• you then have the added workload of making Ã¢â ¬Å“Christmas magicÃ¢â ¬Â• by rushing around, trying to find parking spaces at busy malls, waiting in lines, buying and wrapping presents. YouÃ¢â ¬â„¢re tired, stressed, your feet hurt, and youÃ¢â ¬â„¢re wondering where the meaning is in all of this hustle-bustle.A Moment in TimeThe Marion Daily Star, Marion, OhioÃ¢â ¬â •September 13, 1895TOMORROW.At the ladiesÃ¢â ¬â„¢ exchange at the Free Will Baptist church there will be found home-made bread, brown bread, cakes, pies, fried cakes, cookies, ginger bread, veal loaf, fresh eggs, dressed chickens, etc. A liberal patronage is earnestly desired.I might even feel guilty asking you to add one more thing to your long to-do list. However, the cookie party gives back. It rejuvenates, and gives meaning and inspiration to the holidays, embodying the qualities that we all love bestÃ¢â ¬â •friendship, food, and festivity. There is something about baking that forces you to slow down, and sharing cookies, which is edible proof of time spent for the benefit of others, is healing and giving at the same time. While you are baking, you also know that soon, very soon, youÃ¢â ¬â„¢ll be coming over to my house for a party and we are going to have a lot of fun!The bonus for the guests, especially for those who describe themselves as non-bakers, is that after they leave the party theyÃ¢â ¬â„¢ll go home with a yummy assortment of six dozen homemade cookies. Store-bought cookies just donÃ¢â ¬â„¢t compare. Your non-baking friends will now have home-baked cookies for their families, or they can give out little plates of home-baked love as gifts to their friends, relatives, and associates. Once

youÃ¢â ¬â„¢ve started the tradition of hosting cookie exchanges, the holidays wonÃ¢â ¬â„¢t seem the same without them!Each person who goes to a cookie exchange party has her own reasons for attending. For my group of girls, who mostly identify themselves as non-bakers, coming to my cookie party is an opportunity to get a selection of different types of homemade cookies. Some people who attend donÃ¢â ¬â„¢t care as much about the cookies, but wouldnÃ¢â ¬â„¢t want to miss the party for anything! However, they know their ticket to get in the front door is a tray of home-baked cookies, so they dutifully bake.A Moment in TimePortsmouth Herald, Portsmouth, New HampshireÃ¢â ¬â •December 30, 1916The Willing Workers connected with the Government Street M.E. church are making plans for a cookie party in the near future.Story time is always fun, especially when you have a group of non-baking friends Ã¢â ¬Å“who killed themselvesÃ¢â ¬Â• to bake cookies to the best of their abilities and get to the party. Do you have a group of Ã¢â ¬Å“non-bakersÃ¢â ¬Â•? HereÃ¢â ¬â„¢s a party tip: Print out my baking tips and include them with the basic invitation and the Rules of the Cookie Exchange (see www.cookie-exchange.com/baking_tips.html).While cookies are the focal point of the party, the guests are the real reason to host a party. A cookie exchange enables you to bring together people of various backgrounds, ages, and interests; they all have something in common on that one day. Everyone involved has had to spend the same amount of time, energy, money, and thought to participate. They all brought home-baked cookies, and all have stories to share of the baking adventures (or misadventures!) that they had before they got to my door.A Moment in TimeSheboygan Press, Sheboygan, WisconsinÃ¢â ¬â •January 5, 1925ST. MARKÃ¢â ¬â„¢S LADIES AIDSOCIETY MEETSThe Ladies Aid Society of St. MarkÃ¢â ¬â„¢s church will meet Wednesday afternoon in the church parlors. The officers will be the hostesses and it will be a cookie party. All members and friends are invited to attend.At weddings, birthdays, anniversaries, and graduations, the focus of the party is on the one or two people being honored. At a cookie exchange, every single person is highlighted and the focus is on each guest for a few minutes as they talk about their cookies. Everyone is a star! New friendships are forged, and after time they, too, become old friends who enjoy seeing each other, year after year, at the annual cookie exchange.The History of the Cookie ExchangeIn the earliest days of documentation, over one hundred years ago, they were referred to as Ã¢â ¬Å“cookie parties.Ã¢â ¬Â• By the 1930s, they began to be called Ã¢â ¬Å“cookie exchanges.Ã¢â ¬Â• The term Ã¢â ¬Å“cookie swapÃ¢â ¬Â• wasnÃ¢â ¬â„¢t popularized until the 1950s.Historically, cookie exchange parties have been a ladies-only event. Exchanges were hosted by friends, relatives, neighbors, social groups, clubs, office co-workers, teams, schools, and churches. ThatÃ¢â ¬â„¢s currently changing, as other types

of cookie exchange parties are emerging and becoming commonplace now: families with children included, men only, men and women, and cookie exchange parties used as a fund-raising tool. IÃ¢â ¬â„¢m often asked, Ã¢â ¬Å“How old is the cookie exchange?Ã¢â ¬Â• and Ã¢â ¬Å“Who invented it?Ã¢â ¬Â•Throughout the millennia, sharing food has been the most elemental form of communication. If one were to encounter a group of semi-hostile strangers who spoke a different language, nothing says Ã¢â ¬Å“I come in peaceÃ¢â ¬Â• more than outstretched arms containing platters of food. If youÃ¢â ¬â„¢re going to nourish someone, itÃ¢â ¬â„¢s likely that your intentions are peaceful.A Moment in TimeSyracuse, New YorkÃ¢â ¬â •January 20, 1936HOME BUREAU UNITSHOLD 11 MEETINGSCOOKIE EXCHANGE WILL BEFEATURE OF ERWIN GROUPEleven meetings of Syracuse Home Bureau units are to be conducted this week and will deal with methods of remodeling hats and setting the luncheon table. The schedule follows:MondayÃ¢â ¬â •Lincoln Unit meets at the home of Mrs. H. K. Seeley, 300 Hickok Avenue, at 2 oÃ¢â ¬â„¢clock to study planning and setting the luncheon table. Erwin Unit meets at the home of Mrs. I. B. Stafford, 242 Kensington Place, at 2 oÃ¢â ¬â„¢clock for a cookie exchange meeting. South Side Unit meets at the South Side Library at 1:30 for a lesson on remodeling hats given by Miss Maude Loftus.The humble roots of the American Thanksgiving come to mind. The Pilgrims felt indebted to the Native Americans for teaching them how to live off the land. To show their appreciation, the Pilgrims invited the Indians over for a three-day celebration, and foods were shared from the harvest. Many parties are celebrated and forgotten. But this feast wasnÃ¢â ¬â„¢t; it launched a tradition celebrated by millions annually. What does that have to do with a cookie exchange? ItÃ¢â ¬â„¢s completely natural to ask strangers to your feast: PEOPLE + FOOD = SHARING.WeÃ¢â ¬â„¢ll never know who first thought of the cookie-only exchange. However, the tradition of sharing foods has been going on for thousands of years, and will continue, for survival and celebration, for thousands more.

I recently purchased this book after checking it out from the library a few years ago. Lots of good recipes (Didn’t have any that didn’t turn out well!) for a wide variety of holiday treats (cookies, candies, bar cookies, even a few savory items)! Plus, there are sections with ideas for throwing variously themed holiday parties and cookie exchanges as well as advice for baking, packaging and shipping cookies. A wonderful, comprehensive Christmas cookie book. My only negative would be that there are not a lot of photos in the book. Wish there were a few more!

This Cookie Party cookbook is great to have for Christmas!! It has so many wonderful Christmas cookie recipes!! I can’t wait to make some of these cookie recipes for Christmas!!

Great read and recipes. Robin shares her stories of cookie parties which runs much deeper than you think. I didn’t expect that to be part of the book but it made this much more fabulous. My only regret is not purchasing it sooner.

This book is the best guide you will find for hosting a Cookie Exchange. Tips, hints, and recipes are all included. The author also suggests decorating and theme ideas. Some of the recipes are "oldies but goodies", and others will be welcomed additions to your cookie trays. Don’t hesitate to get this book if you are considering hostessing a cookie exchange.

This year marks my first Cookie Exchange in almost twenty years. I gave up after three years because I had three little children and it became impossible. Fast forward twenty years and they will now be my helpers! This book will help you plan, decorate and give you game ideas. I am so looking forward to this party! Robin’s book is an excellent resource whether this is your first cookie exchange or your tenth!

Excellent information for hosting a Cookie Swap, including lots of cookie recipes, decoration suggestions, ice breaker and holiday games and menu suggestions. This is a terrific "how to" book. It provides information for both the first-time Cookie Swap hostess and for those who have held "annual" events.

As a 15-year seasoned cookie exchange hostess, I can attest that "The Cookie Party Cookbook: The Ultimate Guide to Hosting a Cookie Exchange by Robin Olson" is EXACTLY what every cookie exchange hostess (and guest) needs! Robin clearly explains how to host a cookie exchange, the different party themes, baking tips, how she started her cookie exchange tradition, as well as shares the wonderful heart-warming story behind her love for baking.I absolutely love the fact that the recipes are tried and true from cookie exchange hostesses all over the country. I have been submitting photos of my cookie exchanges to Robin for years so when she asked me to submit one of my cookie recipes for her book, I knew that I could only send her my absolute best cookie recipe. I’m sure other hostesses felt the same which is why I can’t wait to try every single recipe in the book!This book is a MUST for anyone interested in learning how to host a cookie exchange, attend someone else’s exchange, and even for seasoned hostesses like myself. I plan on giving Robin’s book to all of my cookie exchange participants this year!

When I got the replacement for the one lost in mail, i opened and started reading right away..It is a wonderful book! I ma looking forward to hosting an exchange and trying the recipes!

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