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Cooking with Raisins

Raisins are grapes that have been dried. They are a lowfat source of energy.

Uses

Raisins are a great-tasting fruit snack. Add them to cooked oatmeal, cookies, breads and cakes for added flavor and nutrition. **Note:** Young children easily choke on raisins. Do not to give raisins to children who are younger than 3 years.

How to store

For best quality, store unopened boxes of raisins in a cool, dry place. Once opened, store in an airtight container in the refrigerator to prevent moisture from spoiling the raisins. Use raisins within 6 months.

Easy Carrot and Raisin Salad (makes 6 servings)

What you need

2 cups grated carrots ¹/₂ cup raisins ¹/₃ cup mayonnaise-type salad dressing Salt and pepper (if you like)

Note: Be sure to wash the carrots before you grate them.

How to make it

- 1. Wash your hands; make sure your cooking area is clean.
- 2. Place the raisins in a bowl of hot water for 15 minutes to soften them.
- 3. Drain the raisins.
- 4. Stir together the carrots, raisins, salad dressing, salt and pepper.
- 5. Chill it about 15 minutes before serving.

Oatmeal Raisin Muffins (makes 12 muffins)

How to make it

- 1. Wash your hands; make sure the cooking area is clean.
- 2. Mix the flour, baking powder, baking soda, salt and cinnamon in a large bowl. Set it aside.
- 3. Stir in the oatmeal, milk, sugar, egg, oil, applesauce and raisins; mix it until the ingredients are moist.
- 4. Spoon the mixture into a greased muffin tin until it is $\frac{2}{3}$ full.
- 5. Bake the muffins at 350 degrees F for 25 minutes or until a toothpick inserted into a muffin comes out clean.

Tip: To measure packed brown sugar, spoon or scoop it into a dry measuring cup. Pack it down firmly with a spatula or spoon until level. Brown sugar should hold its shape when removed from the cup.

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What you need

- 1¼ cups all-purpose flour 2 teaspoons baking powder ½ teaspoon baking soda ½ teaspoon salt 1 teaspoon cinnamon 1 cup uncooked oatmeal 1 cup skim milk ⅓ cup brown sugar, packed 1 egg
- ¹/₄ cup vegetable oil
- $\frac{1}{3}$ cup applesauce
- 1¼ cup raisins, unpacked