



### **Quick Mix Maple Apple Harvest Cake**

*Something strange is happening...*

*The cake has a maple flavor but doesn't use any maple syrup*

- 1/4 cup minced soft candy cap mushrooms, if desired
- 1 (21 oz.) can apple pie filling and topping
- 1 (15 .2 oz.) box butter golden cake mix, sifted
- 3 eggs
- 1/2 cup canola oil
- 1/2 cup fine chopped pecans or walnuts
- 1/2 cup dried cranberries

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#### **Prepare the Candy Cap Mushrooms to Add a Maple Flavor:**

- 1/4-ounce dried candy cap mushrooms (about 1/2 cup)
- 1 cup water

Place mushrooms into a microwave safe bowl; add water; cook in microwave on high power for 1 minute and very hot; set aside for 15 to 20 minutes. Drain tender mushrooms from liquid; set liquid aside. Press excess liquid from mushrooms; cut off any hard parts; fine chop mushrooms; set aside.

### **Prepare Quick Mix Cake:**

Preheat oven 350 degrees F. Generously grease foil or parchment lined 13x9-inch pan.

Place apple filling in large bowl; add cake mix, eggs, and oil. With a large spoon, stir to form batter; add pecans, cranberries, and prepared mushrooms. Place batter in prepared cake pan; smooth batter evenly in pan.

Bake in preheated 350-degree F. oven for 40 to 50 minutes. Cool about 10 minutes; remove from pan if desired. Can be served in slices or as a spoon-up. Spoon or drizzle warm or chilled maple vanilla sauce over cake or on the serving plate or serve with dollops of whipped cream. Serves: 20 to 25 slices

### **Prepare Simple Maple Vanilla Sauce to Serve with Dessert:**

1/2 cup granulated sugar  
2 Tablespoons cornstarch  
3/4 cup reserved mushroom liquid  
1/4 cup heavy cream  
1 teaspoon vanilla  
Pinch of salt

In medium saucepan, stir granulated sugar and cornstarch; add mushroom liquid to combine. Cook stirring constantly over medium heat with a whisk or spoon until mixture thickens. Remove from heat; whisk cream and vanilla into the thickened sauce.

For a thinner sauce: add more cream as desired.

**About the Recipe:** It's hard to believe that a delicious dessert can be mixed and baked so easily. This mix quick one bowl cake highlights the harvest flavors of fall apples, cranberries, and walnuts in a butter flavored moist cake. Just for fun, order some candy cap mushrooms and add some to the cake and sauce. What's the surprise? A fantastic maple or butterscotch essence that will surprise and delight everyone.