

### INGREDIENTS

## WET INGREDIENTS

- 2/3 cup of lard
- 1 ¼ cup of granulated sugar
- <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> cup of fresh espresso
- 1/2 TSP of vanilla extract
- 1/2 cup of cocoa powder
- <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> cup of hot water

### <u>DRY INGREDIENTS</u>

- 3 1/2 cups of sifted AP flour
- 1 TSP of baking powder
- <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> TSP of kosher salt
- 1/2 TSP of allspice
- **1 TSP of cinnamon**
- 1/2 cup of toasted & chopped walnuts
- 1/2 cup of chopped raisins

### <u>GLAZE</u>

- 1 ½ cups of icing sugar
- 2 TBSP of milk
- 1/2 TSP of vanilla bean extract

## **OTHER**

2 cups of icing sugar

Christmas sprinkles of choice



# BISCOTTI SCURI DI NATALE

By Caterina Romano's kitchen

# DIRECTIONS

- 1. Use a stand mixer with a paddle attachment. In the bowl, beat together the lard and sugar for about 2-3 minutes until the sugar breaks down and incorporates with the lard.
- 2. Stop the mixer and do a scrape down.
- 3. Combine the espresso with the vanilla extract. Mix together and add to the sugar mixture.
- 4. Combine the hot water with the cocoa powder. Mix well until the cocoa breakdown in the water. Add to the bowl of the mixer and beat for 3-4 minutes until all the ingredients are well combined. Do a scrape down.
- 5. For the dry ingredients combine the flour with the baking powder, salt, allspice& cinnamon. Whisk to combine all the ingredients.
- 6. Cover the raisins with hot water. The hot water will plump the raisins after about 10 minutes. Strain out the water.
- 7. Combine the walnuts and raisins. Mix well and add it to the flour mixture. Continue mixing until all ingredients are well combined.
- 8. Add the dry ingredients to the wet one tablespoon at a time.
- 9. When thoroughly mixed, divide dough into two portions, plastic wrap and refrigerate for 1 hour.
- 10. Preheat the oven to 350 DF.
- 11. Line your baking tray with parchment paper.
- 12. Using a 1 TBSP scooper, scoop the dough. Roll it with your hands and form into a meatball.
- 13. Bake in the oven for 8-10 minutes.
- 14. Allow the cookies to cool for 1 hour.
- 15. For the glaze, combine the milk with the vanilla. Gradually add the milk mixture to the icing sugar and continue mixing until you reach the desired consistency.
- 16. With a batch of cookies, place them in the glaze and roll them around until they are fully coated. Place on a tray with parchment paper and top with the Christmas sprinkles. Allow them to dry.
- 17. For the second batch, coat the cookies in the icing sugar and enjoy.

## **ENJOY THE BISCOTTI SCURI DI NATALE**