

## Rosemary Shortbread Cookies

<u>Ingredient</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Instruction</u>
salted butter	1 cup = 8 oz.	softened
unsalted butter	½ cup = 4 oz.	softened
white sugar	¾ cup = 6 oz.	
fresh rosemary	1 scant TBLSP	finely chopped
all-purpose flour	2 ¾ cups = 13 oz.	

If using cookie molds:

powdered sugar	½ cup or so
cheesecloth	6 sq. in.

- In a large mixing bowl, beat the butter, sugar, and rosemary together until light and fluffy, about 4 minutes.
- Mix in the flour a little at a time until well mixed and solid enough to knead.
- Knead the dough in the bowl by folding it in half and pressing down, then rotating ninety degrees and repeating until the dough feels elastic and can hold its shape in a ball.
- Wrap the dough ball in plastic wrap, put it back in the bowl, and refrigerate at least two hours. Put the wooden mold into the freezer.
- When ready to bake, preheat oven to 350 degrees F.

Using a cookie mold: (if not, then skip down to Not using a cookie mold.)

- Spread a piece of parchment paper out on the countertop, the size of your cookie sheet.
- The cheesecloth will be your cookie mold duster. Put the cheesecloth into a shallow dish so the powdered sugar doesn't go everywhere, and place a large handful of powdered sugar into the middle of the cheesecloth.
- Gather up the edges of the cheesecloth and tap it across the surface of the cookie mold to generously dust the entire cavity with a good dose of powdered sugar. This keeps the dough from sticking.
- Use a pastry scraper or a knife to cut a quarter inch slice of cookie dough. Press it into the cookie mold. Push the sides toward the middle to define the perimeter shape. Use the pastry scraper or knife to cut away excess dough from the top. You want the dough to be only slightly higher than the edge of the mold cavity.
- Holding your hand at the top of the mold, with the dough-filled cavity facing down, slam the bottom edge of the mold against the parchment paper on the countertop to release the cookie. The angle is about twenty degrees. You may need two or three slams. OR press the pastry scraper against the dough in the mold to pull it out.
- When you have enough cookies to fill the cookie sheet, slide the parchment paper onto the cookie sheet.

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## Not using a cookie mold:

- Roll out the chilled dough between two sheets of parchment paper to a thickness between one eighth and one quarter of an inch.
- Cut shapes using cookie cutters or use a pizza cutter to slice the dough into rectangle shapes.

## Continue:

- The cookies should not touch each other on the cookie sheet, but they need no expansion room.
- Bake 11 minutes at 350 deg F. They don't need to brown.
- Put remaining dough back into the refrigerator while the cookies are baking.
- Leave the cookies on the cookie sheet for five minutes before removing to racks to cool completely.
- Store in airtight containers after the cookies are completely cooled.

**NOTES:** Julia suggested adding rosemary to the shortbread. I like a bit less than a full tablespoon in this recipe. Our cookie mold was hand carved by Gene Wilson in Illinois. He retired from carving in 2020, but his nephew continues the tradition. [www.CookieMold.com](http://www.CookieMold.com)

## Half Recipe weights

salted butter	½ cup = 4 ounces
unsalted butter	¼ cup = 2 ounces
white sugar	0.375 cup = 3 ounces
rosemary	1 tsp
all-purpose flour	1.375 cup = 6.50 ounces

half recipe makes 14 cookies