

FEBRUARY 2023

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IRS TAX TIPS

The Internal Revenue Service kicked off the 2023 tax filing season with a focus on improving service and a reminder to taxpayers to file electronically with direct deposit to speed refunds and avoid delays.

Following a successful opening of its systems today, the IRS is now accepting and processing 2022 tax returns. Most of the individual tax returns for the 2022 tax year are expected to be filed before the April 18 tax deadline.

Taxpayers have until April 18 to file their taxes this year, but some taxpayers living overseas and disaster victims may have later filing deadlines. Alabama, California and Georgia storm victims now have until May 15 to file various federal individual and business tax returns and make tax payments.

"Following months of hard work, we successfully opened our processing systems today to start this year's tax season," said IRS Acting Commissioner Doug O'Donnell. "Getting to this point is a monumental effort not only for the IRS but also for the nation's tax community. The hard-working employees of the IRS look forward to serving taxpayers this filing season, and I personally want to thank them, and all of the tax and payroll community for their dedication to making tax time smoother for the nation."

O'Donnell also noted that taxpayers can count on IRS delivering improved service this filing season. As part of the August passage of the Inflation Reduction Act, the IRS has more than 5,000 new telephone assistants and added more in-person staff to help taxpayers. "We continue to increase IRS staffing to help provide taxpayers with the information and assistance they need," said O'Donnell. "The IRS reminds taxpayers to take some important steps when filing their tax returns for a smoother process. They should gather their necessary tax records, file an accurate return electronically and choose direct deposit to get their refunds faster."

Taxpayers who electronically file a tax return with no issues and choose direct deposit should still receive their refund within 21 days of the date they file – similar to previous years. Due to tax law changes such as the elimination of the Advance Child Tax Credit and no Recovery Rebate Credit this year to claim pandemic-related stimulus payments, many taxpayers may find their refunds somewhat lower this year.

The Internal Revenue Service announced in November 2022 that, for the first-time ever, the agency's [Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years 2022-2026](#) is now available in **Spanish**. This announcement aligns with the IRS's continued effort to expand tax resources in more languages to provide taxpayers with the service they deserve. As part of the agency's new five-year Strategic Plan, the IRS has committed to increase the availability of services and tax products that are easy to use and support the needs of all communities. The Strategic Plan will serve as a roadmap to help guide the agency's programs and operations. Developed with input from external partners as well as IRS employees, the plan focuses on goals that will help improve customer service. The IRS also has a [Languages](#) webpage available in 20 languages to help taxpayers find basic tax information.

Earned Income Tax Credit or Additional Child Tax Credit refunds: Taxpayers may file their returns beginning Jan. 23, but the IRS cannot issue refunds involving the Earned Income Tax Credit or Additional Child Tax Credit before mid-February. The law provides the extra time to help the IRS prevent fraudulent refunds. "Where's My Refund?" on IRS.gov should show an updated status by Feb. 18 for most EITC and ACTC filers. The IRS expects most of these refunds to be available in taxpayer bank accounts or debit cards by Feb. 28 if people chose direct deposit and there are no other issues with their tax return.

Avoid phone delays; online resources best option for help: IRS.gov is the quickest and easiest option for help. IRS assisted phone lines continue to receive a high volume of calls. To avoid delays, check IRS.gov first for refund information and answers to tax questions, check a refund status or pay taxes. No wait time or appointment needed – online tools and resources are available 24 hours a day. Setting up an Online Account on IRS.gov can also help taxpayers get information quickly. IRS Online Account was recently expanded to allow more people to gain access. The [Interactive Tax Assistant](#) can also help taxpayers get answers to many tax questions online at any time.

2021 tax returns still being processed: Taxpayers can check [Where's My Amended Return?](#) to find out the status of their tax year 2021 Form 1040-X and can still file their 2022 tax returns even if their 2021 tax returns haven't been processed. Visit the [IRS Operations](#) page for more information on what to expect.

February Fun Facts

The Barbie Doll was invented By Ruth Handler on February 4, 1959.

Alan Shepard became the first man to hit a golf ball on the Moon on February 6, 1971.

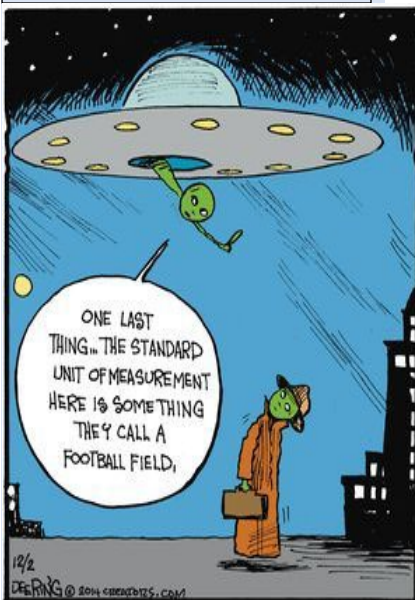
On February 11, 1990, Nelson Mandela was released from prison after 27 years.

Arizona became the 48th state of the union on February 14, 1912.

On February 18, 2001, Dale Earnhardt died in a crash during the Daytona 500.

Polio Vaccine immunization started in United States on February 23, 1954.

On February 26, 1919, Congress established Grand Canyon National Park.





Strawberry-Orange Breakfast Cakes

<https://eatingwell.com> Servings: 8 Total time: 55 minutes

Ingredients

¾ cup whole-wheat flour (white or regular)
½ cup oat bran
¼ cup almond flour or whole-wheat flour (white or regular)
1 ½ teaspoons baking powder
¼ teaspoon baking soda
¼ teaspoon ground cinnamon
½ teaspoon salt
¾ cup nonfat vanilla yogurt plus 1/3 cup, divided
¼ cup packed brown sugar
1 egg, lightly beaten
2 tablespoons vegetable oil
½ teaspoon almond extract (Optional)
1 tablespoon orange juice
¼ cup low-sugar strawberry preserves
3 tablespoons sliced almonds
½ cup chopped fresh strawberries

Directions

Step 1

Combine flour, oat bran, almond flour (or flour), baking powder, baking soda, cinnamon, and salt in a medium bowl. Combine ¾ cup yogurt, brown sugar, egg, oil, and almond extract (if using) in a small bowl. Stir the yogurt mixture into the flour mixture just until combined.

Step 2

Combine orange juice and preserves in a small bowl. (Refrigerate the batter and filling in separate airtight containers for up to 3 days. For single servings, see Tips.)

Step 3

To serve, preheat oven to 375 degrees F. Coat six 6-oz. custard cups or ramekins with cooking spray. Set in a shallow baking pan.

Step 4

Spoon 1/3 cup of the batter into each prepared cup. Bake until the edges are firm but the centers are still slightly doughy, 10 to 12 minutes. Remove from oven. Spoon the filling onto the center of the cakes and sprinkle with almonds. Bake until a toothpick comes out clean, about 9 minutes more. Cool on a wire rack for 10 minutes.

Step 5

Combine strawberries and the remaining 1/3 cup yogurt in a small bowl; spoon onto the warm cakes.

Tips

Equipment: 6-oz. custard cups or ramekins

Tips

Tips: To serve one cake, fill one custard cup or ramekin and bake as directed (Steps 3-4), using 1 Tbsp. filling and 1 1/2 tsp. almonds. Serve with 1 Tbsp. topping.

Tips

Sugar Substitute: We do not recommend a sugar sub for this recipe.

Nutrition Facts

Serving Size: 1 cake

Per Serving: 229 calories; protein 7g; carbohydrates 35g; dietary fiber 3g; sugars 16g; fat 9g; saturated fat 1g; cholesterol 1mg; sodium 265mg.

Exchanges: 1 1/2 fat, 1 other carbohydrate, 1 starch, 1/2 lean protein

February

Feb 1

National Freedom Day

Feb 3

National Carrot Cake Day

Feb 8

National Kite Flying Day



Feb 10

National Umbrella Day

Feb 14

Valentine's Day

Feb 16

National Almond Day

Feb 18

National Drink Wine Day

Feb 20

National Cherry Pie Day



Feb 26

National Pistachio Day

Feb 27

National Polar Bear Day

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FORMS OF
PAYMENT NOW
ACCEPTED:

- VISA
- MASTERCARD
- AMERICAN EXPRESS
- DISCOVER CARD
- VENMO
- FACEBOOK PAY
- CASH
- PERSONAL CHECK

Super Bowl Word Search


Find the hidden words going up, down, left and right.

L	L	D	B	C	N	J	Z	V	N	W	F	U	O	S	R	B
U	U	H	M	H	K	W	Z	U	H	Y	Z	D	U	U	P	L
M	D	A	R	E	P	U	S	U	U	T	M	T	J	N	C	B
Y	B	T	V	E	F	P	G	U	D	O	K	P	Q	D	A	L
J	A	C	V	R	F	I	A	G	X	Y	J	N	Q	A	R	P
F	F	R	I	L	O	G	O	R	B	S	B	Z	M	Y	Z	Y
P	D	I	U	E	K	S	K	Y	D	D	T	Z	U	I	Q	J
E	C	U	T	A	C	K	P	O	L	B	Z	H	J	H	U	Y
I	X	M	Z	D	I	I	D	B	W	H	Z	Y	Q	F	A	T
N	K	L	P	E	K	N	G	N	I	N	N	U	R	I	R	R
N	D	X	Q	R	Q	E	X	I	T	H	E	L	M	E	T	A
J	O	V	M	S	H	R	M	M	N	G	B	O	W	L	E	P
C	Q	W	G	A	M	E	R	V	D	R	K	I	R	D	R	W
X	X	K	A	B	E	Z	P	O	S	E	S	D	E	B	B	I
C	P	P	B	X	S	M	U	I	D	A	T	S	K	H	A	K
U	E	L	I	N	E	M	A	N	G	O	U	E	K	V	C	W
L	L	A	B	T	O	O	F	T	B	K	L	K	E	E	K	Z




FOOTBALL
FIELD
QUARTERBACK
GAME
SUPER

SUNDAY
HELMET
STADIUM
LINEMAN
BOWL



CHEERLEADERS
PIGSKIN
RUNNING
KICKOFF
PARTY



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