	Chewy Gingerbread Cookies				
	Course: Chris	Course: Christmas Cookies, Cookies			
	Servings 32 servings	Prep time 2 hours 15 minutes	Cooking time 10 minutes	Total time 2 hours 25 minutes	
Ingredients					
For the Gingerbread Cookies:					
375 g (3 cups) all-purpose flour, s	spooned and leveled				
1 tbsp ground ginger					
1 tbsp ground cinnamon					
1/2 tsp ground nutmeg					
1/4 tsp ground allspice					
1/4 tsp ground cloves					
1/2 tsp salt					
1/2 tsp baking soda					
170 g (3/4 cup) unsalted butter, so	oftened				
165 g (3/4 cup) light brown sugar,	packed				
2 egg yolks, at room temperature					
1 tsp vanilla extract					
170 g (1/2 cup) unsulphured mola	asses				
For the Icing:					
390 g (3 cups) powdered sugar					
60–75 ml (4–5 tbsp) whole milk					

Directions

Make the Cookie Dough:

- **1** Combine Dry Ingredients: In a medium bowl, whisk together the flour, ginger, cinnamon, nutmeg, allspice, cloves, salt, and baking soda. This ensures the spices are evenly distributed throughout the dough.
- **2** Cream Butter and Sugar: In a large bowl, cream together the softened butter and brown sugar until the mixture is light and fluffy. This step is crucial for creating the chewy texture.

- **3** Add Wet Ingredients: Mix in the egg yolks, molasses, and vanilla extract until smooth. The molasses adds both flavor and moisture.
- **4** Incorporate Dry Ingredients: Gradually add the dry ingredients to the wet mixture, mixing until just combined. Be careful not to overmix, as this can lead to tough cookies.
- **5 Chill the Dough**: Shape the dough into a disk, wrap it tightly in plastic wrap, and refrigerate for at least an hour. Chilling helps the flavors meld and makes the dough easier to work with.

Roll & Cut the Dough:

- **6** Roll the Dough: On a well-floured surface, roll the chilled dough to about 1/4-inch thickness. If the dough feels too firm, let it sit at room temperature for a few minutes before rolling.
- **7 Cut Out Shapes**: Use your favorite cookie cutters to create festive shapes like stars, snowflakes, or gingerbread people. Be creative and have fun with it!
- **8 Chill Again**: Arrange the cutouts on a parchment-lined baking sheet and chill them in the refrigerator for at least an hour. This step prevents the cookies from spreading while baking.

Bake to Perfection:

- **9** Preheat the Oven: Set your oven to 350°F (175°C) and line additional baking sheets with parchment paper if needed.
- **10** Bake: Place the chilled cookie cutouts about 2 inches apart and bake for 9–10 minutes (or 7–8 minutes for smaller cookies). The edges should be set, but the centers will remain soft.
- **11 Cool**: Let the cookies rest on the baking sheet for 2 minutes before transferring them to a wire rack to cool completely.

Make the Icing & Decorate:

- **12** Prepare the lcing: Sift the powdered sugar into a medium bowl and stir in milk until you reach your desired consistency. The icing should be thick enough to hold its shape but still flow smoothly for piping.
- **13 Decorate**: Fill a piping bag with the icing and decorate your cookies however you like. Add details, patterns, or even sprinkles for extra flair.
- **14 Set the Icing**: Allow the icing to dry completely before stacking or storing the cookies.