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# Cookie Swap: Creative Treats To Share Throughout The Year



## Synopsis

Cookie Swap Long Product Description: Looking for a unique cookie swap theme or cookie? Look no further than Cookie Swap by Julia Usher where she takes the popular idea of the cookie exchange party to new heights and new directions. Cookie Swap is filled with delectable recipes and tasty treats sure to please at any gathering whether you're looking for something colorful and chewy like the Bunny Trail Mix Cookies or feeling a bit nutty for the Under her Thumb(print) Cookies rolled in hazelnuts and topped with a creamy, white-chocolate ganache. This elegant entertaining book shows that the cookie swap is perfectly suited not only to holiday gatherings but also to garden parties, showers, children's birthdays, summer get-togethers, and more. Talented baker Julia Usher reveals that cookies are infinitely adaptable to different party themes and times of year, resulting in scores of delightful possibilities. Themes and events include: Affairs of the Heart (Valentine's Day, Anniversaries, Birthdays), Spring Fling, Vision in White: (Weddings), Fun in the Sun (Summer), Garden Parties, Deck the Halls (Christmas), and even a theme for going back to school! Discover a mouth-watering cookie for your next swap:

## Book Information

Paperback: 160 pages

Publisher: Gibbs Smith; 1 edition (August 1, 2009)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 9 x 0.6 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 2 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 84 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #262,977 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #83 in [Books > Cookbooks, Food & Wine > Baking > Cookies](#) #719 in [Books > Cookbooks, Food & Wine > Desserts](#) #25212 in [Books > Teens](#)

## Customer Reviews

Starred Review. Encouraging Christmastime cookie swappers to up the ante with plans for eight themed swaps-including Valentine's Day, bridal shower, garden party and Halloween (plus Christmas)-Usher produces a wealth of eye-catching bakery, decoration and entertainment ideas for hosts of all experience levels. Recipes are helpfully categorized by skill level, time commitment and type, allowing readers to decide quickly if they're up for the task of Eggnog Cheesecake Streusel

Bars, a one on Usher's scale (meaning novice-appropriate), or the mini Chocolate Chai Burgers on Sesame Seed Buns, a considerably more complicated recipe that merits a three. The result is a book that bakers can come back to as their experience and confidence grows, with at least one recipe worth tackling in each theme. Usher's suggestions for transporting cookies via vintage lunch box or Christmas ornament box, and party ideas like dish towels imprinted with vintage postcards, are easy and ingenious, sure to appeal to fans of the Barefoot Contessa and Martha Stewart (no surprise from the designer dessert maker whose work has appeared in *Chocolatier*, *Better Homes and Gardens*, *Bon Appetit* and *Modern Bride*).

A cookie is one of life's most precious, delicious gifts. Swapping them with friends is all the better. Julia Usher's gorgeous and doable ideas inspire us not only to trade cookies at holiday time but the whole year through. Filled to the brim with mouthwatering recipes and delectable photographs, *Cookie Swap* is a sweet treat to savor and celebrate. Nancy Wall Hopkins, Deputy Food and Entertaining Editor, *Better Homes and Gardens Magazine* (Nancy Wall Hopkins *Better Homes & Gardens* 2009-05-12) This creative book has become my new gold-standard guide to cookie decorating. Talented baker Julia Usher provides foolproof recipes and teaches us decorating techniques, from the simplest bar cookie to elaborate showpieces. Her whimsical designs and ideas make this book as fun as it is informative. Open it to any page-you're bound to be inspired. • Tish Boyle, Editor, *Dessert Professional* (formerly *Chocolatier*) and author of *The Good Cookie* and *The Cake Book* (Trish Boyle *Dessert Professional* 2009-05-12) "Julia Usher's lovely cookies will inspire you to become a dedicated cookie decorating hobbyist." Nick Malgieri, Author of *The Modern Baker*, *How to Bake*, and *Cookies Unlimited* (Nick Malgieri Author of *The Modern Baker*, *How to Bake*, and *Cookies Unlimited* 2009-05-12) Julia Usher is one smart cookie . . . and luckily, we can now all be invited to her *Cookie Swap*! Her new book has it all: complete basics for beginners, everything a home baker needs to perfect the simple art of "something out of nearly nothing," and imaginative creativity for pros. Well-tested recipes are reliable, fun, and scrumptious; photos are enticing; and party ideas are both practical and budget conscious. Essential for all bakers, this excellent guide to year-round cookie swap parties is a winner. Susan G. Purdy, author of *Pie in the Sky* (Susan G Purdy author of *Pie in the Sky* 2009-05-12) Julia Usher's over-the-top cookies and detailed, theme-inspired swaps promise joyful sharing and sweet memories for year-round entertaining. Flo Braker, author of *Baking for All Occasions*, *The Simple Art of Perfect Baking*, and *Sweet Miniatures* (Flo Braker author of *Baking for All Occasions*, *The Simple Art of Perfect Baking*, and *Sweet Miniatures* 2009-05-12) *Cookie Swap: Creative Treats to Share Throughout the Year*

Julia M. Usher. Gibbs Smith, \$19.99 paper (160p) ISBN 9781423603788 Encouraging Christmastime cookie swappers to up the ante with plans for eight themed swaps-including Valentine's Day, bridal shower, garden party and Halloween (plus Christmas)-Usher produces a wealth of eye-catching bakery, decoration and entertainment ideas for hosts of all experience levels. Recipes are helpfully categorized by skill level, time commitment and type, allowing readers to decide quickly if they're up for the task of Eggnog Cheesecake Streusel Bars, a one on Usher's scale (meaning novice-appropriate), or the mini Chocolate Chai Burgers on Sesame Seed Buns, a considerably more complicated recipe that merits a three. The result is a book that bakers can come back to as their experience and confidence grows, with at least one recipe worth tackling in each theme. Usher's suggestions for transporting cookies via vintage lunch box or Christmas ornament box, and party ideas like dish towels imprinted with vintage postcards, are easy and ingenious, sure to appeal to fans of the Barefoot Contessa and Martha Stewart (no surprise from the designer dessert maker whose work has appeared in *Chocolatier*, *Better Homes and Gardens*, *Bon Appetit* and *Modern Bride*). (Aug.) (2009-09-01)"No wonder Usher - who grew up to get a degree in mechanical engineering from Yale University, earned an MBA from Stanford University and at 47 is an accomplished pastry chef and cookbook writer - is intent on drawing folks back to the kitchen. She knows, firsthand, the heart-filled connection that's sparked there. And she has just the ticket to get us all baking the honest-to-goodness way."

If you want to make exquisite decorated cookies, nothing is better than Julia Usher. This book has ideas and recipes for the basic cookies required to make the most amazing decorative edible cookies. Follow her videos and on Pinterest for free!

AM NOT SURE IF IT HAS BEEN DELIVERED TO ME AND I HAVE PACKED IT. I BOUGHT IT BECAUSE IT WAS LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT AND VERY INEXPENSIVE

I started decorating cookies after reading this book and trying recipes from it. Easy peasy and great tutorials, very good purchase.

A lot of yummy projects, not just cookie cutter ones!

I have bought other less expensive books and really was not happy in the overall book to begin with and then disappointed in the content; but as they say you get what you paid for. I must say that this

book was worth every penny. If you love to bake for your family or friends and enjoy all the oooohhhss and ahhhhs when you present them with your creations, this is the book for you. I have loved every page of this book and that is not something I say all that often. I am a true believer that anything can be made better. I will be waiting for the next book to see what they can do to top this one. I know I will be using this book for many many years

Lots of pictures

I really enjoyed this book. She gives very precise details of instructions on how to decorate cookies. Her sugar art is exquisite!

It was a present for my mother since she loves baking and more decoration and she is such in love with this book, super ideas and tips. Julia M Usher is one of the best cookie decorator ever, the videos at youtube are fantastic too.

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