



BAKLAVA

Ingredients

- 1 pound mixed nuts, chopped
- 1 packet (16 ounce) frozen phyllo pastry
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1 cup butter, melted
- 1 cup white sugar
- 1 cup water
- ½ cup honey
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 teaspoon lemon zest (grated)

Method

- Preheat the oven to 350 °F (175 °C). Butter a 9" x 13" baking dish, covering base and sides
- Mix the cinnamon and nuts together. Cut the filo pastry stack in half to fit the baking dish and cover them to keep from drying
- 3. Place 2 sheets of filo into the baking dish, and brush generously with butter. Sprinkle with 2-3 tablespoons of nuts and cinnamon mixture
- 4. Repeat the layers, until the nut mixture is used; 6 sheets of filo will be used. Cut the baklava lengthwise into 4 strips then cut across diagonally into 9 equal size rows, which will give you 36 triangles. Be sure the knife goes through all of the layers to the bottom of the dish
- 5. Bake in the preheated oven for 50 minutes, or until the filo turns crisp and golden. Remove the baklava from the oven and cool
- 6. While your baklava is baking, prepare the honey syrup. Place a pan over medium heat on the stove, mix the sugar in the water and bring to a boil. Add in the honey, vanilla, and lemon zest, then reduce the heat, and simmer for 20 minutes
- 7. Spoon the syrup over the cooled baklava. Serve at room temperature

Serves 6