

DECORATED COOKIES

Nothing is more attractive to the young fry than a good cookie especially designed for the occasion. For Valentine's Day, mix up a batch of sand tarts or your favorite sugar cookie recipe, cut out dough with your heart shaped cookie cutter and ice in red or pink or appropriate designs.

CRANBERRY SPARKLE

For a pleasing yet different beverage for your guests, serve this easy colorful punch. Mix 1 quart cranberry juice cocktail, 2 cups orange juice, both of which have been chilled and 4 to 6 seven ounce

beverage. Pour over ice cubes in punch bowl when ready to serve.

VALENTINE DESSERT

For a delightfully different Valentine pastry, make a simple white cake layer in heart-shaped pan. Cover with strawberry gelatin molded in heart mold. Ring whole with whipped cream.



**Valentines . . .
From Handmade
To Printing Shop**

The earliest valentines in America, about the middle of the 18th century, were handmade. Young folks had more leisure time and much effort went into the expression of sentiments.

Missives were deposited quite frequently on the lady love's door step, sealed in wax and folded since no envelopes were used. Those going a greater distance were dis-

The very early designs showed good taste and were attractively painted with the symbols of mating birds and hearts. Later, silhouettes, cherubs, cupids and pierced hearts came into popularity and cut work enhanced the expression of devotion.

Valentines were often used as a proposal for marriage, sparing the shy suitor from appearing in person to present his heart and hand.

Around 1820 a new type of design appeared, representing an Oriental pattern and drawn on oil paper. Also appearing a bit later were tin type reproductions of the couple with an appropriate verse.

Woodcuts and lithographs which met acceptance about this time preceded the lacy edged beauties which were introduced in the mid 19th century and became a product of the Industrial Revolution. These were turned out in great quantity by craftsmen, very frequently leaving a space for the sender to enclose a personal message.

With stereo typed verses now being used in great volume, the personal touch which made the earlier Valentines so charming soon disappeared.

MAKE YOUR VALENTINE A RAISIN GOODIE

A gift Valentine filled with the goodness of plump raisins and crisp cereals or nuts says to teachers and friends, "You're someone very special!"

For making personalized Valentines—and what young miss doesn't like to?—a raisin-filled Valentine box pleases even more than a card. And it is more fun! Any small boxes which have contained pins, thumb tacks, rubber bands, or other handy items used around the home will do. With foil or tissue paper, wrap the entire box and add your personal decorative touches.

It is easy to make a heart pattern if you fold your paper or material half a heart, with the fold for the center, and both sides will be the same.

Any active pre-teenager, preparing for a party, can easily personalize her gift favors by writing a friend's name on each of her heart-bedecked boxes. Then, she fills them with flavorful raisin-cereal-nut mixtures. They also will serve as place marks at her own party table as well as favors for her guests.

Although such delicious refreshment disappears fast, it is an easy party food to replenish, making sure that each boy and girl can take home a full Valentine box when the party is over. This new Valentine suggestion comes from the California Raisin Advisory Board.

The go-along quality of raisins as a nibble food, besides being popular for children's fare in school lunches and in baked goodies, also combines well with nuts and with cheeses as appetizers for adult Valentine's Day parties. Chewy raisins enhance the texture of crunchy, chopped carrot and nut mixtures that please both children and adults.



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