Maple Sticky Buns

From The Maple Syrup Cookbook

If you like sticky buns but can seldom find the time to make the real thing, these are for you!

Ingredients Yields: 9 servings

1/2 cup finely chopped walnuts
1/4 cup firmly packed brown sugar
1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1/2 cup pure maple syrup
1/2 cup (1 stick) plus 1 tbsp cold butter
2 1/4 cups unbleached all-purpose flour
1 tbsp baking powder
3/4 tsp salt
1 cup milk

Directions

- 1. Preheat oven to 400 F/200 C. Mix together the walnuts, brown sugar, and cinnamon in a small bowl. Set aside.
- 2. In a small saucepan, bring the maple syrup and 4 tablespoons of the butter to a boil over medium heat. Boil for 30 seconds, then scrape into a 9-inch square pan or a 10-inch deepdish pie plate. Set aside.
- 3. Combine the flour, baking powder, and salt in a large bowl. Toss to mix. Cut 4 tablespoons of the butter into ½-inch pieces, add to the flour mixture, and cut it in until the butter is roughly the size of split peas. Make a well in the middle and add the milk. Stir gently, until the mixture forms a damp, cohesive mass. If the dough seems a bit wet, work in a tad more flour with the back of a wooden spoon. Melt the remaining 1 tablespoon of butter in a small saucepan (or microwave).
- **4.** Turn the dough onto a lightly floured surface and knead gently five or six times. Using a rolling pin, roll the dough into the best 9- by 12-inch rectangle you can manage; don't worry if it isn't perfect. Brush the surface with the melted butter.
- 5. Cover the dough evenly with the brown sugar mixture, patting it gently with your hands. Starting at the 9-inch edge, roll up the dough like a carpet, pinching at the seam to seal. Cut into nine 1-inch slices and lay them flat in the baking pan with the syrup.
- **6.** Bake for 25 minutes. Remove from the oven and invert onto a large plate. Do this quickly but carefully, being aware that the syrup is very hot. Oven mitts are a good precaution.
- 7. Scrape any syrupy stuff from the pan and spread over the buns.