BASIC VANILLA CUPCAKES







Frivolous and fun, cupcakes are a little indulgence that appeals to young and old. With a light and fluffy texture, the real magic lies in creating delectable decorations that make them irresistible to your customers.

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SERVES 18

INGREDIENTS		Approx Unit Price	Approx Ingredient Cost		
Cupcakes:					
225g	unsalted butter, softened	0.01000	100%	\$2.25	
225g	Chelsea caster sugar	0.00262	100%	\$0.59	
225g	self-raising flour	0.00170	100%	\$0.38	
4	eggs, no 6	0.20000	100%	\$0.80	
4g	baking powder (1 tsp)	0.00890	100%	\$0.04	
5ml	vanilla extract	0.06692	100%	\$0.33	
lcing:					
230g	Chelsea icing sugar, sifted	0.00261	100%	\$0.60	
110g	unsalted butter, softened	0.01000	100%	\$1.10	
5ml	vanilla extract	0.06692	100%	\$0.33	
	a few drops chosen food colouring				
	decorations as desired				

METHOD

Beat together the cupcake ingredients until smooth and pale.

Preheat oven to 180°C and put 18 paper cupcake cups into muffin tins.

Fill cupcake cups 2/3 full of cupcake batter and bake for about 20 minutes (until a skewer inserted into the centre of a cupcake comes out clean).

Transfer cooked cupcakes to a cooling rack to cool completely.

When cupcakes are completely cooled, make the icing.

Cream the butter in a food mixer until smooth, then add the vanilla extract.

With the mixer on low speed, gradually add in the sifted icing sugar.

When all the sugar has been added, add a few drops of food colouring, then turn mixer to high and beat on high speed until light and fluffy.

Put icing into a piping bag with a large star nozzle, and pipe onto each cupcakes. Decorate as desired.

CUPCAKE VARIATIONS

- Almond cupcakes add 3 tbsp ground almonds and 1 tsp almond extract.
 Omit the vanilla extract
- Sultana cupcakes fold in 150g sultanas to the finished mix before baking
- Lemon cupcakes add the finely grated zest of 1 lemon to the mix. Top with lemon icing and decorate with candied lemon peel.
- Chocolate cupcakes replace 20g of the flour with 20g of high quality cocoa powder. Top with chocolate icing and decorate with grated dark or white chocolate.

ICING VARIATIONS

- Lemon icing use a few drops of lemon colouring and add the finely grated zest of 1 lemon.
- Chocolate icing gently melt 100g chopped dark chocolate with 30ml cream and 50g butter ina pan until smooth. Remove from heat and stir in 100g sifted Chelsea icing sugar - stir until smooth.

TOTAL COST COST PER PORTION GROSS PROFIT %	\$6.43 \$0.36 70%
SALES TAX	15%
MIN. SELLING PRICE (per portion)	\$1.37
Costs based on average wholesale pric	es at Feb 2011

SOME KEY POINTS TO REMEMBER:

 Use any kind of desired sprinkles to decorate cupcakes - e.g. 100s and 1000s, grated dark chcoolate, cachous, sliced strawberries, fresh blueberries etc.

PROFIT

• Using the base recipe, each cupcake costs around 36c + GST. Decorated, cupcakes will still cost under 60c + GST each to make, and a selling point of \$2.30 will generate 70% GP.

NUTRITION

• Contains egg, milk products and wheat gluten.

SERVICE

- Place display in prominent position near till or coffee machine.
- Bake and serve in proper cupcake papers makes simple, clean baking and easy handling.