

mary berry simple cakes

mary berry simple cakes have become a beloved choice for bakers of all skill levels, thanks to their straightforward recipes, delicious flavors, and dependable results. Renowned British baker and television personality Mary Berry has built a reputation for creating recipes that are accessible, easy to follow, and consistently tasty. Her simple cakes are perfect for everyday baking, special occasions, or when you want a comforting homemade treat without the fuss. Whether you're a beginner or an experienced baker, exploring Mary Berry's simple cake recipes can transform your baking experience, allowing you to produce beautiful, flavorful cakes with minimal effort.

Why Choose Mary Berry Simple Cakes?

Mary Berry's approach to baking emphasizes simplicity, quality ingredients, and traditional techniques. Her simple cakes are designed to be approachable, making them ideal for anyone looking to whip up a homemade dessert without complicated steps or exotic ingredients. Here are some reasons why Mary Berry simple cakes are a popular choice:

Key Benefits of Mary Berry Simple Cakes

- **Easy-to-Follow Recipes:** Clear instructions suitable for beginners.
- **Minimal Ingredients:** Usually a handful of pantry staples.
- **Reliability:** Consistently good results, reducing baking stress.
- **Versatility:** Suitable for everyday treats and special occasions.
- **Delicious Flavors:** Classic combinations that appeal to all ages.
- **Time-Efficient:** Quick to prepare and bake, perfect for busy schedules.

Popular Mary Berry Simple Cakes You Can Make at Home

Mary Berry has a vast repertoire of simple cake recipes, many of which have become household favorites. Here are some of her most beloved and easy-to-make cakes:

1. Victoria Sponge Cake

Victoria sponge is a quintessential British cake, and Mary Berry's recipe is a testament to its timeless appeal.

Key Features:

- Light, airy sponge layers
- Classic jam and buttercream filling
- Simple ingredients like flour, sugar, eggs, butter

Why It's Popular:

- Perfect for birthdays, teatimes, or afternoon tea
- Easy to customize with different jams or fillings

2. Lemon Drizzle Cake

A zesty lemon-flavored loaf that is moist and bursting with citrus flavor.

Key Features:

- Basic sponge batter infused with lemon zest
- Topped with a tangy lemon glaze
- Minimal ingredients, quick to prepare

Why It's Popular:

- Refreshing and tangy flavor
- Ideal for picnics and afternoon tea

3. Carrot Cake

A moist, spiced cake packed with grated carrots and often topped with cream cheese frosting.

Key Features:

- Simple spice cake base
- Incorporates grated carrots and nuts
- Easy to assemble and decorate

Why It's Popular:

- Nutritious and flavorful
- Suitable for celebrations and tea-time treats

4. Madeira Cake

A dense, buttery cake that is versatile for layering or serving plain.

Key Features:

- Basic ingredients like butter, sugar, eggs, and flour
- Firm texture, good for slicing thinly

Why It's Popular:

- Great for making layered cakes or serving with fruit
- Easy to flavor with add-ins like almonds or citrus

How to Make Mary Berry Simple Cakes: Essential Tips

Achieving perfect results with Mary Berry's simple cakes is straightforward if you follow some key tips:

1. Use Quality Ingredients

- Fresh eggs, good-quality butter, and pure vanilla extract can make a significant difference.
- Measuring ingredients accurately ensures the right batter consistency.

2. Follow the Recipe Precisely

- Baking is a science; adhere to the specified measurements and techniques.
- Don't skip steps like preheating the oven or preparing the pans.

3. Prepare Your Equipment

- Use the right size cake pans, and line them with parchment paper.
- A reliable mixer or hand whisk can make mixing easier.

4. Pay Attention to Baking Times

- Check doneness with a skewer or toothpick; it should come out clean.
- Avoid opening the oven door too early to prevent cakes from collapsing.

5. Allow Cakes to Cool Properly

- Let cakes cool in their pans for a few minutes before transferring to a wire rack.
- Fully cooled cakes are easier to decorate and slice.

Additional Tips for Perfecting Mary Berry Simple Cakes

To elevate your baking game, consider these extra tips:

Use Room Temperature Ingredients

- Eggs, butter, and milk should be at room temperature for better mixing and rise.

Incorporate Flavors Thoughtfully

- Add zest, extracts, or spices to enhance flavor without complicating the recipe.

Customize Your Cakes

- Experiment with fillings, toppings, or add-ins like fruit, nuts, or chocolate chips.

Presentation Matters

- Decorate with simple icing, dustings of icing sugar, or fresh fruit for an attractive finish.

Variations and Creative Twists on Mary Berry's Simple Cakes

While Mary Berry's recipes are loved for their simplicity, you can also get creative with variations:

Flavor Boosters

- Add a splash of brandy or liqueur to the batter.
- Incorporate different extracts like almond or lemon.

Healthy Swaps

- Use wholemeal flour or reduce sugar slightly.
- Add grated zucchini or apples for added moisture and nutrition.

Decorative Touches

- Finish with a simple glaze, piped buttercream, or fresh berries.
- Use stencils or dustings of cocoa powder for decorative effects.

Where to Find Mary Berry Simple Cake Recipes

Many of Mary Berry's simple cake recipes are published in her cookbooks, such as:

- Mary Berry's Baking Bible
- Mary Berry's Absolute Favourites
- Mary Berry's Simple Comforts

In addition, her official website and cooking shows feature step-by-step tutorials and tips for each recipe. Many food blogs and cooking channels also share her recipes, making it easy to replicate her simple cakes at home.

Conclusion: Embrace the Joy of Baking with Mary Berry's Simple Cakes

Mary Berry's simple cakes exemplify the idea that baking doesn't have to be complicated to be delicious. With straightforward recipes, minimal ingredients, and foolproof techniques, you can create delightful cakes that impress family and friends alike. Whether you're making a classic Victoria sponge, a tangy lemon drizzle, or a hearty carrot cake, Mary Berry's approach ensures your baking experience is enjoyable and rewarding. So gather your ingredients, follow her guidance, and indulge in the satisfying joy of homemade cake—simple, tasty, and utterly delightful.

Start your baking journey today with Mary Berry's simple cakes and discover how easy and rewarding homemade baking can be!

Frequently Asked Questions

What are some of Mary Berry's most popular simple cake recipes?

Mary Berry's popular simple cake recipes include her classic lemon drizzle cake, Victoria sponge, carrot cake, Madeira cake, and chocolate loaf. These recipes are known for their straightforward methods and delicious flavors.

How can I make a basic Mary Berry-style sponge cake at home?

To make a basic Mary Berry sponge cake, cream softened butter and sugar until light and fluffy, then add eggs one at a time, followed by sifted flour and a touch of baking powder. Bake in a preheated oven at 180°C (350°F) until golden and a skewer inserted comes out clean. Simple, moist, and perfect for any occasion.

What are some tips for decorating simple cakes like Mary Berry's?

For simple cake decoration, use a smooth layer of buttercream or icing, then add fresh fruit, a dusting of icing sugar, or a drizzle of chocolate. Mary Berry often emphasizes neatness and minimalism, so keeping decorations elegant and understated works well.

Are Mary Berry's simple cake recipes suitable for beginners?

Yes, Mary Berry's simple cake recipes are designed to be accessible for beginners. They use straightforward techniques, common ingredients, and clear instructions, making them perfect for those new to baking.

Can I customize Mary Berry's simple cake recipes for dietary needs?

Absolutely. You can adapt Mary Berry's recipes by substituting ingredients, such as using gluten-free flour, reducing sugar, or swapping butter for dairy-free alternatives. Just keep in mind that changes might slightly alter the texture and flavor, so adjustments may be needed.

Additional Resources

Mary Berry Simple Cakes have long been celebrated in the world of baking for their timeless appeal, approachable recipes, and delicious results. As one of Britain's most beloved bakers, Mary Berry's approach to simple cakes emphasizes ease, flavor, and classic techniques that both novice and seasoned bakers can enjoy. Her recipes often evoke a sense of nostalgia, comfort, and tradition, making her simple cakes a staple in many households. Whether you're looking for a quick teatime treat or a centerpiece for a special occasion, Mary Berry's simple cakes provide reliable and delightful options that stand the test of time.

Introduction to Mary Berry's Simple Cakes

Mary Berry's culinary philosophy centers around simplicity and quality. Her recipes focus on straightforward ingredients and uncomplicated methods that produce impressive results. Her simple cakes are designed to be accessible, avoiding overly complex techniques or exotic ingredients, making them ideal for bakers of all skill levels. These cakes often rely on classic flavors like lemon, fruit, chocolate, and rich sponge bases, all crafted with her signature touch of elegance and practicality.

Key Features of Mary Berry Simple Cakes

Approachable Recipes

Mary Berry's recipes are renowned for their clarity and ease of understanding. She provides step-by-step instructions, tips, and tricks, which make even the most basic bakers feel confident in their skills. Her focus on straightforward techniques ensures consistent success.

Use of Classic Flavors

The cakes reflect traditional British and European tastes, highlighting ingredients like butter, eggs, fruit, and chocolate. This focus on familiar flavors appeals to a broad audience and ensures the cakes are comforting and universally loved.

Ingredient Simplicity

Most of her recipes require common pantry staples, making shopping and preparation hassle-free. This simplicity encourages home bakers to create delicious cakes without needing special or hard-to-find ingredients.

Focus on Texture and Balance

Mary Berry emphasizes achieving the perfect balance of moistness, crumb, and flavor. Her cakes are often tender, with well-developed textures that complement the flavors.

Popular Mary Berry Simple Cake Recipes

1. Lemon Drizzle Cake

A quintessential British bake, the Lemon Drizzle Cake is moist, tangy, and ideal for afternoon tea. It features a lemon-syrup glaze that infuses the cake with bright citrus flavor.

2. Victoria Sponge

Classic and elegant, this sponge cake is layered with jam and whipped cream or buttercream. It's a versatile cake perfect for any celebration.

3. Chocolate Loaf Cake

Rich, fudgy, and straightforward, this cake is perfect for chocolate lovers. It can be made with cocoa powder or melted chocolate for extra indulgence.

4. Fruit Cake

A traditional fruit cake with dried fruits, nuts, and a hint of brandy, ideal for holiday festivities or special occasions.

In-Depth Review of Mary Berry's Simple Cakes

Flavor and Texture

Mary Berry's cakes excel in delivering balanced flavors. Her lemon drizzle, for instance, offers a perfect citrus tang that is neither overpowering nor dull. Her Victoria sponge remains light and fluffy, with a tender crumb that holds up well whether filled with jam or cream. The chocolate loaf cake is dense yet moist, offering a deep chocolate flavor that satisfies without being overly heavy.

The textures across her recipes tend to be reliably moist and tender, achieved through precise measurements and techniques. Her cakes often have a fine crumb, which adds to their elegance and appeal.

Ease of Preparation

One of the standout features of Mary Berry's simple cakes is their accessibility. The recipes are designed with clear instructions, often accompanied by helpful tips such as how to check for doneness or how to achieve a flat, even cake surface.

Most recipes require standard mixing methods—cream, fold, or whisk—and minimal equipment. This simplicity reduces the intimidation factor for beginners and makes the baking process enjoyable rather than stressful.

Presentation and Serving

Mary Berry's cakes are as attractive as they are delicious. Their classic designs lend themselves well to elegant presentation, whether dusted with icing sugar, glazed with citrus syrup, or layered with filling. She advocates for simple decorating techniques that enhance the cake's natural beauty without requiring advanced decorating skills.

Versatility and Adaptability

Her recipes are versatile, allowing for adaptations such as adding extra fruit, nuts, or flavorings. For example, her lemon drizzle cake can be modified to include poppy seeds or a layer of lemon curd. This flexibility makes her simple cakes suitable for various tastes and occasions.

Pros and Cons of Mary Berry Simple Cakes

Pros:

- Accessible for Beginners: Clear instructions and straightforward techniques.
- Reliable Results: Consistent cakes that turn out moist, tender, and flavorful.
- Use of Common Ingredients: No need for special or hard-to-find items.
- Classic Flavors: Appeals to traditional tastes and nostalgic preferences.
- Elegant Presentation: Easy to serve at both casual and formal gatherings.
- Versatility: Adaptable recipes for various fillings, toppings, and flavor variations.

Cons:

- Limited Innovation: Focus on tradition may lack adventurous or modern twists.
- Potential for Uniformity: Recipes can sometimes produce similar-looking cakes, lacking visual variety.
- Sweetness Levels: Some cakes may be quite sweet, which might not suit all palates.
- Size Constraints: Standard recipes are often for small to medium-sized cakes; larger celebrations may require scaling up.

Tips for Baking Mary Berry's Simple Cakes

- Use Quality Ingredients: Fresh eggs, good butter, and fresh fruit enhance flavor.
- Accurate Measurements: Baking is a science; measuring ingredients precisely ensures success.
- Preheat the Oven: Always ensure your oven is at the correct temperature before baking.
- Don't Overmix: Overmixing can lead to dense cakes; mix just until ingredients are combined.
- Check for Doneness: Use a skewer or cake tester—insert into the center; it should come out clean.
- Allow Cooling: Let cakes cool in their pans briefly before transferring to wire racks to prevent breaking.

Conclusion: Why Choose Mary Berry's Simple Cakes?

Mary Berry's simple cakes embody the essence of home baking—delicious, straightforward, and comforting. Her recipes serve as a testament to the idea that you don't need elaborate techniques or exotic ingredients to create something truly special. Whether you're a novice eager to learn the basics or an experienced baker looking for reliable, crowd-pleasing recipes, her simple cakes provide a perfect starting point. Their timeless appeal, combined with ease and versatility, makes Mary Berry's simple cakes a valuable addition to any baker's repertoire. Embracing her approach means indulging in classic flavors with confidence, creating beautiful cakes that bring joy to everyday moments and special celebrations alike.

Mary Berry Simple Cakes

mary berry simple cakes: Simple Cakes Mary Berry, 2012-05-01 Let Simple Cakes dispel the myth that cake-baking is all fuss and fiddle. Now Mary Berry guides you through the art of making the ultimate in comfort food, from cakes, biscuits and pastries, to meringues and more. From Coffee Cake and Devonshire Scones to Lavender Biscuits and, of course, the classic Victoria Sponge, each delicious recipe is accompanied by step-by-step illustrations and simple instructions to ensure

impressive results every time. Including sections on ingredients, equipments and methods, as well as suggested party menus, baking has never been so simple.

mary berry simple cakes: Mary Berry's Ultimate Cake Book (Second Edition) Mary Berry, 2012-03-31 Over many years, Mary Berry has perfected the art of cake-making and her skills have earned her a reputation as the queen of cakes. Now she has updated her classic home baking bible, the Ultimate Cake Book, and once again shares with you the secrets of her success. With over 200 classic cake recipes, Mary Berry's Ultimate Cake Book includes recipes for every cake, biscuit and bun you ever wanted to bake and many more. From the traditional Victoria Sandwich Cake, Tarte Tatin or Millionaires Shortbread to the indulgent Very Best Chocolate Roulade, Swiss Wild Strawberry and Walnut Cake or Sharp Lemon Cheesecake, there is sure to be a cake or bake here to suit everyone. Ideal for cake-baking novices as well as more experienced cooks, Mary explains the basic methods of baking and gives advice on ingredients and equipment. Mary's easy recipes are interspersed with baking tips and solutions for the most common problems, making it possible for everyone to bake their favourite cake, whatever the occasion.

mary berry simple cakes: Baking with Mary Berry Mary Berry, 2015-11-23 A sweet and savory collection of more than 100 foolproof recipes from the reigning Queen of Baking Mary Berry, who has made her way into American homes through ABC's primetime series, The Great Holiday Baking Show, and the PBS series, The Great British Baking Show. Baking with Mary Berry draws on Mary's more than 60 years in the kitchen, with tips and step-by-step instructions for bakers just starting out and full-color photographs of finished dishes throughout. The recipes follow Mary's prescription for dishes that are no fuss, practical, and foolproof--from breakfast goods to cookies, cakes, pastries, and pies, to special occasion desserts such as cheesecake and soufflés, to British favorites that will inspire. Whether you're tempted by Mary's Heavenly Chocolate Cake and Best-Ever Brownies, intrigued by her Mincemeat and Almond Tart or Magic Lemon Pudding, or inspired by her Rich Fruit Christmas Cake and Ultimate Chocolate Roulade, the straightforward yet special recipes in Baking with Mary Berry will prove, as one reviewer has said of her recipes, if you can read, you can cook.

mary berry simple cakes: Fast Cakes Mary Berry, 2018-06-14 Fast Cakes is an unmissable, definitive new baking book from Mary Berry. Proper cakes that take 10 minutes or less to make and under an hour to bake. If you miss Mary's wisdom and inspiration in The Great British Bake Off, or want a brand-new companion to Mary Berry's Baking Bible, this is the cookbook for you with over 200 easy recipes to make with confidence. There are scones, buns and biscuits that you can whip up for tea, traybakes and fruit loaves perfect for a school or village fete and of course foolproof cakes for every occasion from everyday recipes such as a Honey and Almond Cake to Mary's First-Rate Chocolate Cake. Not forgetting recipes you can make with your kids from Happy Face Biscuits to Traffic Lights and Jammy Buns. Straightforward recipes you can trust, Fast Cakes is a must-have for all busy bakers.

mary berry simple cakes: Mary Berry's Baking Bible: Revised and Updated Mary Berry, 2023-05-09 Baking legend Mary Berry, longtime judge of The Great British Baking Show, presents this revised and updated edition of her seminal baking book, featuring 250 recipes, including 20 all-new bakes, updated photography, and Americanized measurements. Mary Berry's Baking Bible has been thrilling home bakers with delectable, no-fuss, trustworthy recipes for more than a decade. Now the queen of British baking brings her straightforward advice and expertise to this fully revised edition of classic bakes. Her biggest collection yet also features 20 new recipes plus mouthwatering photography. A sampling of her beloved desserts includes: • Cakes: Victoria Sandwich; Very Best Chocolate Fudge; Lemon Yogurt • Cookies and Bars: Melting Moments; Orange and Chocolate Shortbread; Bakewell Slices • Traybakes: Lemon Drizzle; Coffee and Walnut; Double Chocolate Chip and Marshmallow • Tarts and Pastries: French Apple Tart; Chocolate Eclairs; Profiteroles • Breads: Crunchy Orange Syrup Loaf; Quick Sourdough Loaf; White Cottage Loaf • Puddings and Pies: Sticky Apricot Pudding; Classic Apple Pie; Crème Brûlée • Cheesecakes: American Chocolate Ripple; Buttermilk and Honey; and Key Lime Pie Readers will also be delighted to discover that many of her

treasured recipes have been updated and simplified to suit the needs and tastes of today's home bakers. And, as always with foolproof recipes from Mary Berry, there will be no soggy bottoms!

mary berry simple cakes: Mary Berry's Ultimate Cake Book Mary Berry, 1994

mary berry simple cakes: **Mary Berry's Foolproof Cakes** Mary Berry, 2004 Mary Berry has a long-established reputation for providing the home cook with easy-to-follow, reliable recipes but, if there's one area where she is the undisputed queen of the kitchen, it's cake-making. In Foolproof Cakes, soon to be available in paperback as Simple Cakes, Mary guides you step-by-step through the art of making all kinds of cakes, biscuits and pastries. All 40 of Mary's recipes which range from a classic Tarte Tatin to a sumptuous Sacher Torte, Lemon Drizzle Traybake and Devonshire Scones use readily available ingredients. The recipes are accompanied by colour photographs at every stage to make this notoriously tricky area of cooking even easier. With clear, easy-to-follow methods, Mary Berry's fail-safe instructions guarantee even the novice cook excellent results every time.

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mary berry simple cakes: **Mary Berry at Home** Lucy Young, Mary Berry, 2013-02-14 This is Mary Berry's collection of her favourite dishes that she cooks everyday for her family and friends. Mary and her close friend and assistant, Lucy Young, provide over 150 simply prepared, delicious, reliable recipes for lunch, dinner and parties. Whether you need food for two or twenty, Mary and Lucy have included plenty of starters, mains, sides and puds, together with invaluable advice on cooking for all occasions. And no book from the Queen of Cakes would be complete without some mouth-watering, foolproof bakes. Mary invites you to enjoy afternoon tea, with an array of delicious cakes, traybakes and dainty treats. It has been nearly twenty years since Mary Berry first wrote At Home, and in this new edition she has extensively revised and updated many of her classic dishes as well as adding 60 brand new recipes. Mary Berry's Baking Bible is the only baking book you'll ever need, and Mary Berry & Lucy Young At Home takes care of every other mealtime.

mary berry simple cakes: *Mary Berry's Traditional Puddings and Desserts* Mary Berry, 2011-07-01 A delicious collection of easy-to-follow dessert and pudding recipes from one of the best-known cookery writers in the UK, Mary Berry There is nothing more tantalizing than a fruit tart in the summer, a decadent chocolate gateau in the winter, and a good sticky toffee pudding any time you like. Using her expertise of traditional family cooking, Mary Berry shows how to make over 160 puddings and desserts, from old favourites, to variations on classic recipes and new mouth-watering ideas. Choose from a variety of pies, tarts, cakes, meringues, sorbets and ice creams. A visual recipe chooser makes it easy for you to select a dish to suit your mood. Tips and techniques, such as how to make a pastry and decorate with chocolate, will help you hone your skills to perfection. Plus, preparation tips enable you to save time in the kitchen. Essential for anyone who likes their meals to end with a real treat! All recipes previously published in Mary Berry's Complete Cookbook. Mary Berry's Traditional Puddings and Desserts- now available in ebook(PDF) format.

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teach you to cook with confidence, with over 120 delicious recipes. This book features all the recipes from the show, including delicious weeknight dinners, irresistible dinner party suggestions and of course, plenty of tempting traybakes and biscuits for those with a sweet tooth. Featuring her no-nonsense tips and techniques, each chapter ensures perfect results every time, whatever you're cooking. In addition, Mary's no-fuss advice will help you foolproof your kitchen - whether that's preparing ahead to entertain a crowd, planning weekly family meals, or ensuring your store cupboard is well stocked. With Mary's no-fuss guidance, discover how every delicious dish can be made completely foolproof.

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mary berry simple cakes: Mary Berry: The Queen of British Baking - The Biography A.S. Dagnell, 2013-01-29 Mary Berry is one of Britain's most respected and well-loved gurus of the kitchen. The undisputed 'Queen of the Aga' has been the focus of many television shows and regularly contributes her expertise on Woman's Hour. The recent hit BBC show The Great British Bake Off has once again put Mary back into the limelight and has reignited a passion for baking across the nation. Inspired by domestic science classes at school, Mary took a catering course at her local college before gaining a qualification from the Cordon Bleu school in Paris. After a stint working for the Electricity Board where she demonstrated to new owners of electric cookers how to operate them by cooking a Victoria sponge, and then as editor for Housewife and Ideal Home magazine, Mary published her first cookbook, The Hamlyn All Colour Cookbook, in 1970 and hasn't looked back since. As well as cookery books, Mary has collaborated with her daughter Annabel to produce their own range of dressings and sauces which are now sold worldwide. But her personal life has also been touched by tragedy, as her son William was killed in a car accident at the age of just 19. With over 70 cookery books under her belt, there is no doubt that Mary Berry is one of Britain's most successful cookery writers. Awarded the CBE in 2012, her gentle personality and classic 'family' cooking style are a remarkable contrast to some of the more outspoken celebrity television chefs - just one of the reasons why, even after over forty years in the industry, she is so well loved. This is her fascinating story.

mary berry simple cakes: My Kitchen Table: 100 Essential Curries Madhur Jaffrey, 2011-07-31 100 essential curries from Madhur Jaffrey - the Queen of Curry. This recipe collection - containing 100 full-colour photographs - is not only incredible value for money but the perfect introduction to mastering the art of curry making! 'A classy production' -- Sunday Telegraph Magazine 'Exactly what I was looking for in a curry book' -- ***** Reader review 'A little treasure of a book' -- ***** Reader review 'Love this little book, full of easy recipes to follow in a very simple format' -- ***** Reader review

Madhur Jaffrey is the unsurpassed Queen of Curry and here she has collected 100 curry recipes catering to all tastes and abilities. From dals to biryanis, spicy vegetable fritters to lamb shanks braised in a yoghurt sauce, vegetable pullao to silken chicken tikka kebabs and catering for vegetarian and meat-based diets, the recipes are both simple and elaborate and sure to become

household stalwarts and family favourites. Everybody loves a curry - and this easy to follow cookbook has a recipe to suit every taste. Guaranteed to get your mouth watering and you itching to get in the kitchen!

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mary berry simple cakes: Television Scales Nick Salvato, 2019 How to reckon with the staggering volume of television materials, past and present? And how to comprehend all the potential, complex scales at which to grapple with television, from its tiniest units of audiovisual content to its most massive industrial coordinates and beyond? In TELEVISION SCALES, Nick Salvato demonstrates how the problem of scale in the field of television may be turned into a resource and a method for a television studies that would pay better attention to messy medial complexities, peripatetic critical practices, and vulgar psychogeographies. Modeling his investigative practice on the meta-critical writing of social anthropologist Marilyn Strathern in *Partial Connections* and elsewhere, Salvato composes surprising, partial constellations of television's elements. In the process, his consideration ranges from classic television sitcoms like *I Love Lucy* to contemporary reality series such as *The Biggest Loser*, *Iron Chef*, and *House Hunters International*. He simultaneously pores over a number of key television phenomena, including technological mystification, performers' charismatic displays, binge viewing, and devoted fandom. An experiment in style and form, TELEVISION SCALES maps, weighs, and rules television, while also undoing these very strategies for evaluating the medium. ABOUT THE AUTHOR NICK SALVATO is Professor and

Chair of Performing and Media Arts at Cornell University. He is the author of *Uncloseting Drama: American Modernism and Queer Performance* (Yale, 2010), *Knots Landing* (Wayne State, 2015), and *Obstruction* (Duke, 2016). His essays have appeared in numerous venues, including *Camera Obscura*, *Critical Inquiry*, and *Discourse*.

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