

Learning to Cook

by Natalie Lawson

I just love the holiday desserts but also all the foods that are cooked special just for the holidays.

In past years when my children were young and I was new at cooking, I naturally had to follow the recipes to a tee. Sometimes even though you did everything as instructed the final result was lacking somewhat.

But when things turned out the way they should, you couldn't help but gloat and pat yourself on the back. I found out real quick that it takes years of practice and repetition to become an accomplished cook.

As the years went by, I learned to appreciate good food. As my family grew up and would recall special dishes or special times as when I had baked a cake and decorated with marbled frosting made with different colors for their elementary schools yearly carnival. The cake walk was always a popular activity and a big hit. I recall the looks on their faces when they didn't win it. Hopefully I baked them one later.

Our favorite dessert was a jello dish in four different colors and flavors on a graham cracker mix and a lemon meringue on top. It was very good and also very appropriately inexpensive.