## Salted Caramel Ginger Cream Cookies

Try this simple showstopper! Soft and chewy ginger spiced cookies topped with a layer of caramel buttercream and Werther's Chewy caramel sauce.

## Ingredients

## For cookie:

- $2^{11 / 4}$ cups all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons baking soda
- $11 / 2$ teaspoons ground ginger
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
-1⁄2 teaspoon kosher salt
- 3/4 cup unsalted butter, room temperature
- $1 / 2$ cup granulated sugar, plus more for rolling cookies
-1⁄2 cup packed brown sugar
-1/4 cup molasses
- 1 egg


## For caramel sauce:

- 48 (10.8 ounces) Werther's Original Chewy Caramels, unwrapped
- 2 tablespoons water
- 2 tablespoons heavy cream
-1⁄2 teaspoon kosher salt


## For buttercream and

 assembly:- 1 cup unsalted butter, room temperature
- 5 cups powdered sugar
- 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
- Flakey salt, for garnish

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## Instructions

1. For cookies: Combine flour, baking soda, ginger, cinnamon and salt in a large bowl. In the bowl of a stand mixer fitted with a paddle attachment, or using an electric hand mixer, beat butter and sugars until light and fluffy, about 2 minutes, scraping down sides as needed. Add molasses and eggs, one at a time, until combined. Gradually add flour mixture and mix until just incorporated. Wrap bowl of dough in plastic wrap and refrigerate until chilled, about 1 hour.
2. Preheat oven to $350^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$. Line a rimmed baking sheet with parchment paper. Place sugar in a shallow bowl. Portion dough into 3 tablespoon-sized balls and roll in sugar. Place balls 2 -inches apart onto prepared baking sheet. Bake until cookies are golden-brown and begin to crack on top, about 10 to 12 minutes. Allow to cool on pan for 4 to 5 minutes. Transfer to wire racks to cool completely.
3. For caramel sauce: Meanwhile, combine caramels and water in a microwave-safe bowl. Microwave mixture in 30 -second increments, stirring between each increment, until caramels begin to melt, about 1 to $11 / 2$ minutes. Add cream and salt, and continue to stir until mixture is smooth, about 1 minute. Set aside to cool.
4. For buttercream and assembly: Using a stand mixer or hand mixer, whip butter until fluffy, about 3 minutes. Sift in powdered sugar and mix slowly until smooth. Add vanilla and $1 / 4$ cup of caramel sauce, and mix until combined. Pipe buttercream onto cooled cookies and top each with 1 tablespoon of remaining caramel sauce. Garnish with salt and serve.

Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 1 hour 24 mins
Ready in: 1 hour 34 minutes
(plus chilling time)
Skill Level: 4
Serves: 16

