## **Gluten Free Sugar Cookie Cutouts**

**Servings:** 2 dozen **Difficulty:** moderate

## **Cookie ingredients:**

- 21/2-3 C Bob's Red Mill GF 1:1 Baking flour, plus extra for dusting your surface (you can try with any GF all purpose, just make sure the blend contains xanthan gum)
- 3/4 C granulated sugar
- 3 T powdered sugar
- 2 eggs
- 3/4 C softened butter (1 1/2 sticks)
- 2 tsp vanilla extract
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 1 tsp baking powder

## **Royal Icing ingredients:**

- 4 C powdered sugar
- 6 T egg whites
- 1/4 tsp cream of tartar
- 1/4 tsp almond extract

## **Directions:**

- 1. Preheat oven to 350 ° F
- 2. Whisk together dry cookie ingredients
- 3. Use electric mixer to cream butter and sugar for 2 min on high. Then add eggs and vanilla
- 4. Slowly add in dry ingredients until you have desired consistency- you want it to be sticky enough that it holds together but not so sticky that you can't roll it out (each GF flour is made differently so you may need to use more or less than what my recipe calls for if you're using a different flour than me— you want the dough to hold together and not be too sticky to roll out)
- 5. Use your hands to pull the dough together once well combined. I split my dough in half before rolling to have a more manageable size to work with
- 6. Roll half of your dough into a ball and place on floured parchment paper on a flat surface, sprinkle with more flour on top, cover dough with another piece of parchment paper and use a rolling pin to roll out your dough to be about 1/4" thick
- 7. Use cookie cutters to cut out shapes and transfer your cookie dough cutouts (I very carefully use a thin spatula to do this to keep their shape better) to a parchment lined baking sheet and bake for 7-10 minutes (varies depending on your cookie thickness, size of shapes, and oven) until edges start to look SLIGHTLY golden (do not wait until the edges become brown, they will be crispy)
- 8. Transfer to cooling rack immediately and repeat steps with the remaining dough

- 9. Once cookies are completely cooled, make your royal icing (if using)
- 10. Use electric or stand mixer to beat the egg whites with cream of tartar until foamy
- 11. Add in almond extract and mix until combined, then add 1 C of powdered sugar, mix until combined
- 12. Mix in the rest of the powdered sugar by the 1/2 C. If your icing is too thick, add water by the *teaspoon* to help thin, and if too thin add powdered sugar by the tablespoon
- 13. I divided my royal icing to mix with food coloring to design these cookies! Place required amount of icing in a ziplock bag and cut a very small hole in the bottom and use to pipe the edges of the cookies
- 14. Let set for a minute or two and then press harder with your bag of icing to "flood" inside the piped lines, use a toothpick or even butter knife (this is what I did) to spread to the edges
- 15. Let the cookies set for about an hour or two before storing. Icing should become hard and dry to the touch (if you are doing different layers of design, make sure that your icing completely gardens before adding another layer otherwise it will bleed. I know this is a time consuming labor of love, but they are so worth it!)

