



## Cherry French Toast in a Mug + Cool Cherry Whipped Cream + Hot Chocolate Cherry Steamer

By Jacy Shoener, Erin Fletter

**Prep Time** 17 / **Cook Time** 4 / **Serves** 1 - 2

### Fun-Da-Mentals Kitchen Skills

**slice:** to cut into thin pieces using a sawing motion with your knife.

**measure:** to calculate the specific amount of an ingredient required using a measuring tool (like measuring cups or spoons).

**juice:** to extract or squeeze out the juice of a fruit or vegetable, like a lemon, orange, or carrot, often cutting open or peeling the fruit or veggie first to access its flesh.

**mix:** to thoroughly combine two or more ingredients until uniform in texture.

**tear:** to pull or rip apart a food, like basil leaves, into pieces instead of cutting with a knife; cutting breaks cell walls more, so herbs can discolor faster.

**dip:** to briefly put a solid food, such as chips, fries, battered fried fish, hot sandwich (French dip), or veggie slices, into a liquid, like beef broth or a thicker sauce, like ketchup, dressing, or a dip to impart moisture and extra flavor to the solid food.

**knife skills:** Bear Claw (growl), Pinch, Plank, and Bridge (look out for trolls) and Rock and Saw.

**chop:** to cut something into small, rough pieces using a blade.

**mash:** to reduce food, like potatoes or bananas, to a soft, pulpy state by beating or pressure.

**microwave:** to heat or cook food or liquid quickly in a microwave oven, which uses high-frequency electromagnetic waves to generate heat in the food's water molecules.

**thaw:** to gradually warm frozen food, melting ice crystals until it is ready to eat or cook.

**knife skills:** Bear Claw (growl), Pinch, Plank, and Bridge (look out for trolls) and Rock and Saw.

**chop:** to cut something into small, rough pieces using a blade.

**melt:** to heat a solid food so it becomes liquid, like butter or chocolate.

**tear:** to pull or rip apart a food, like basil leaves, into pieces instead of cutting with a knife; cutting breaks cell walls more, so herbs can discolor faster.

**coat:** to apply a covering of flour, breadcrumbs, oil, sauce, or batter to food before baking or frying.

**microwave:** to heat or cook food or liquid quickly in a microwave oven, which uses high-frequency electromagnetic waves to generate heat in the food's water molecules.

**soak:** to immerse a hard food for a certain amount of time in a liquid to soften it.

**thaw:** to gradually warm frozen food, melting ice crystals until it is ready to eat or cook.

**measure:** to calculate the specific amount of an ingredient required using a measuring tool (like measuring cups or spoons).

**shake:** to rapidly and vigorously move a covered container filled with food up and down and side to side to combine ingredients and create a different consistency, such as shaking whipped cream to make butter.

**measure:** to calculate the specific amount of an ingredient required using a measuring tool (like measuring cups or spoons).

**microwave:** to heat or cook food or liquid quickly in a microwave oven, which uses high-frequency electromagnetic waves to generate heat in the food's water molecules.

## Equipment

- Soap for cleaning hands
- Cutting board
- Kid-safe knife (a butter knife works great)
- Small bowl
- Citrus zester or box grater with small zesting holes
- Citrus juicer (optional, but encouraged)
- Measuring spoons
- Microwave
- Microwave-safe mug
- Potholder
- Paper towel
- Fork for mashing
- Kid-safe knife

- Pastry brush
- Whisk
- Spoon for stirring
- Container with a tight-fitting lid
- Liquid measuring cup

## Ingredients

### Rainbow “Crudités” Veggie Sticks + Rad Ranch Dip for One

- Kid chefs' choice for “Crudités.”:
- 4 to 5 baby carrots or carrot chips
- 1 to 2 celery stalks
- 1 mini cucumber or 1/4 large cucumber
- 3 to 5 cherry tomatoes **\*\*(Omit for NIGHTSHADE ALLERGY)\*\***
- 1 to 2 red radishes
- 2 to 3 jicama sticks
- 1/2 red, orange, or yellow bell pepper **\*\*(Omit for NIGHTSHADE ALLERGY)\*\***
- 3 to 5 mini sweet peppers **\*\*(Omit for NIGHTSHADE ALLERGY)\*\***
- Ranch Dip:
- 1 pinch fresh chopped parsley (or dried parsley/dried dill)
- 1/2 lemon
- 2 T full-fat plain Greek yogurt **\*\*(for DAIRY ALLERGY sub dairy-free/nut-free plain Greek yogurt)\*\***
- 1 pinch garlic powder
- 1 pinch salt
- 1 pinch ground black pepper
- 1 tsp water
- 1 pinch granulated sugar, optional

### Cordial Cherry Syrup for One

- 3 frozen cherries

1 T granulated sugar

### Carefree Cherry French Toast in a Mug

1 tsp butter **\*\***(for DAIRY ALLERGY sub dairy-free/nut-free butter, like Earth Balance)**\*\***

7 frozen cherries, thawed

1 egg **\*\***(for EGG ALLERGY sub 1/4 C applesauce)**\*\***

1/4 tsp pure vanilla extract **\*\***(for GLUTEN ALLERGY use certified gluten-free pure vanilla extract, not imitation vanilla flavor—check label)**\*\***

1 T milk **\*\***(for DAIRY ALLERGY sub dairy-free/nut-free milk)**\*\***

1 slice of bread—stale bread is best! **\*\***(for GLUTEN ALLERGY sub gluten-free/nut-free bread)**\*\***

### Cool Cherry Single-Serve Whipped Cream

1/4 C heavy cream **\*\***(for DAIRY ALLERGY sub 1/4 C dairy-free/nut-free heavy cream OR 1/8 C dairy-free/nut-free plain yogurt)**\*\***

1 T Cordial Cherry Syrup

1 T powdered sugar

1/4 tsp pure vanilla extract **\*\***(for GLUTEN ALLERGY use certified gluten-free pure vanilla extract, not imitation vanilla flavor—check label)**\*\***

### Hot Chocolate Cherry Steamer for One

1 C milk **\*\***(for DAIRY ALLERGY sub dairy-free/nut-free milk)**\*\***

1 T Cordial Cherry Syrup

1 T pure unsweetened cocoa powder **\*\***(for CHOCOLATE ALLERGY sub carob powder)**\*\***

1 tsp pure vanilla extract **\*\***(for GLUTEN ALLERGY use certified gluten-free pure vanilla extract, not imitation vanilla flavor—check label)**\*\***

## Food Allergen Substitutions

### Rainbow “Crudités” Veggie Sticks + Rad Ranch Dip for One

**Nightshade:** Omit optional cherry tomatoes, bell peppers, and sweet peppers.

**Dairy:** Substitute dairy-free/nut-free plain Greek yogurt.

### Cordial Cherry Syrup for One

## Carefree Cherry French Toast in a Mug

**Dairy:** Substitute dairy-free/nut-free butter, like Earth Balance. Substitute dairy-free/nut-free milk.

**Egg:** For 1 egg, substitute 1/4 C applesauce.

**Gluten/Wheat:** Use certified gluten-free pure vanilla extract, not imitation vanilla flavor. Substitute gluten-free/nut-free bread.

## Cool Cherry Single-Serve Whipped Cream

**Dairy:** For 1/4 C heavy cream, substitute 1/4 C dairy-free/nut-free heavy cream OR 1/8 C dairy-free/nut-free plain yogurt.

**Chocolate:** Substitute carob powder for pure unsweetened cocoa powder.

**Gluten/Wheat:** Use certified gluten-free pure vanilla extract, not imitation vanilla flavor.

## Hot Chocolate Cherry Steamer for One

**Dairy:** Substitute dairy-free/nut-free milk.

**Chocolate:** Substitute carob powder for pure unsweetened cocoa powder.

**Gluten/Wheat:** Use certified gluten-free pure vanilla extract, not imitation vanilla flavor.

## Instructions

### Rainbow “Crudités” Veggie Sticks + Rad Ranch Dip for One

#### intro

Each of our SFC Sweet Mug Recipes will include this recipe, so kids can snack on healthy raw veggies and dip while they cook.. All veggies are good for the brain! The purpose is to reinforce and encourage kids to eat veggies and have them learn a little about what each vegetable does for the body! Kids will show which veggie(s) they’ve chosen and share the benefit below. Snack on veggies and encourage kids to eat at least 3 pieces to power up their brains before making the mug cake! **Green** veggies help keep you from catching a cold! **White** veggies give you energy! **Yellow** veggies help make your bones strong! **Orange** veggies are good for your heart! **Blue** and **Purple** veggies are good for your memory! **Red** veggies are good for your blood!

#### tear + zest + juice

To make the dip, tear **1 pinch of parsley leaves** into tiny bits! Add the parsley to a small bowl. Zest **1 lemon** and add a pinch of zest to the parsley. Slice the lemon in half and add a squeeze of juice. Watch for seeds!

### measure + mix

Measure and add **2 tablespoons of Greek yogurt, 1 pinch of garlic powder, 1 pinch of salt, 1 pinch of black pepper**, and **1 teaspoon of water** to the bowl with the parsley and lemon. Use a spoon to mix! Taste! What does it need? Add more lemon, salt, pepper, or garlic powder a little at a time until your dip tastes great to you. Add **1 pinch of sugar** to balance flavors if you wish.

### slice + dip

Have kid chefs slice up their **raw vegetables** of choice into sticks or bite-sized pieces, and then dip their Rainbow “Crudités” Veggie Sticks in the Rad Ranch Dip! Delightful!

## Cordial Cherry Syrup for One

### microwave + thaw

Put **3 frozen cherries** into a microwave-safe mug. Cover with a wet paper towel and defrost on high for 15 to 30 seconds to thaw them.

### chop + mash

Chop the thawed cherries into very small pieces, then mash completely with a fork.

### measure + microwave

Measure and add **1 tablespoon of sugar** to the mug. Mix thoroughly. Cover with a damp paper towel. Microwave on high for 30 seconds. Set aside to cool.

## Carefree Cherry French Toast in a Mug

### microwave + thaw

Put **7 frozen cherries** into a microwave-safe mug. Cover with a wet paper towel and defrost on high for 15 to 30 seconds to thaw them.

### chop

Chop the thawed cherries into small pieces and set them aside.

### measure + melt + coat

Measure **1 tablespoon butter** and place it into a clean microwave-safe mug. Cover with a damp paper towel and microwave on high for 30 seconds. Carefully remove with a potholder and use a pastry brush to coat the sides of the mug with the melted butter.

### crack + measure + whisk

Crack **1 egg** into a small bowl. Measure and add **1/4 teaspoon vanilla extract**, and **1 tablespoon milk**. Whisk to combine.

### tear + soak

Tear **1 bread slice** into small pieces and add them to the egg mixture. Stir and allow the liquids to soak into the bread while you make the Cool Cherry Single-Serve Whipped Cream and Hot Chocolate Cherry Steamer for One (if making).

### add + stir + transfer

Add the chopped cherries to the egg and bread mixture. Stir to combine. Transfer the contents of the bowl to the microwave-safe mug coated with butter.

### microwave + top + serve

Microwave on high for 90 seconds to 2 minutes, until the egg is completely cooked. (If you are substituting applesauce for the egg, reduce time to 1 minute.) The French toast might expand above the top of the mug, but it should not overflow. Top with a dollop of **Cool Cherry Single-Serve Whipped Cream** and serve.

## Cool Cherry Single-Serve Whipped Cream

### measure + add

Measure and add **1/4 cup heavy cream, 1 tablespoon Cordial Cherry Syrup, 1 tablespoon powdered sugar**, and **1/4 teaspoon vanilla extract** to a container or jar with a tight-fitting lid.

### shake + shake + shake

Shake until the liquid stops sloshing. Ask the young chefs what could happen if they shake the cream too long (they could make butter instead). You can serve the whipped cream on top of **Carefree Cherry French Toast in a Mug** and Hot Chocolate Cherry Steamer for One.

## Hot Chocolate Cherry Steamer for One

### measure + add

Measure and add **1 cup milk, 1 tablespoon Cordial Cherry Syrup, 1 tablespoon cocoa powder**, and **1 teaspoon vanilla extract** to a microwave-safe mug. Stir well to combine.

### microwave + top + serve

Heat in the microwave for 60 seconds, just until the milk starts to foam. Serve with a dollop of **Cool Cherry Single-Serve Whipped Cream** if you'd like.

## Featured Ingredient: Cherry!

Hi! I'm Cherry!

"My name is a tree, a fruit, a wood, a color, and a female name! My skin is often a rich, dark red color, and when you bite into me, my flesh is the same color! You can eat around the pit in my center and spit it out

(or remove it with your fingers). If you want to remove the pit first, pull out my stem and insert the narrow end of a chopstick (or similar tool) into the hole left by the stem. Then push the pit out through the other end, or use a cherry pitter if you have one!"

## History & Etymology

The cherry is a stone fruit or drupe. People have been eating cherries for thousands of years.

Archaeological evidence of wild (sweet) cherries has been found in Europe from the Early Bronze Age, about 2077 BCE. They were probably being domesticated and grown by 800 BCE.

Turkey produces the most sweet variety of cherries, followed by the United States. Russia is the largest producer of sour cherries. Washington, California, and Oregon grow the most sweet cherries in the US, and Michigan grows the most sour cherries.

The Rainier cherry was named for Mount Rainier in Washington State and was developed in 1952 at Washington State University by crossing a Bing cherry with a Van cherry.

Maraschino cherries are sweetened, preserved sour cherries originally made with Marasca cherries from the Dalmatia region on the Croatian coast. They were preserved with Maraschino liqueur made from cherries and their pits, stems, and leaves. However, the maraschino cherries we use now are made with Queen (Royal) Anne cherries soaked in a sweetened, non-alcoholic syrup with artificial red food coloring added and are really imitation maraschino cherries.

Ornamental cherry trees are grown for their beauty when they flower. They grow naturally in Japan and other countries. Large displays of cherry tree blossoms attract tourists in springtime to places in Japan, the US (especially Washington DC), and other countries.

Cherry trees produce a reddish-brown hardwood used to make furniture, cabinets, and musical instruments. You can also smoke meat using cherry wood chips.

The world record for cherry-pit spitting is over 93 feet! Brian Krause, part of the Krause family cherry-pit spitting dynasty, set the record at an annual contest in Eau Claire, Michigan, in 2004.

The cherry is the state fruit of Utah.

The English word "cherry" comes from the Old Northern French "cherise," from the Latin "cerasum," based on the Greek "kerasos."

## Anatomy

The average life for a cherry tree is 15 to 30 years, although black cherry trees can live up to 250 years. However, the oldest cherry blossom tree in Japan, the "Jindai Zakura," is about 2,000 years old!

Cherry fruit grows on a flowering tree from the Prunus genus, which belongs to the Rosaceae (rose) family. The two main species used commercially are the sweet cherry (*Prunus avium*) and the sour cherry (*Prunus cerasus*). There are over 1,000 varieties; however, we will highlight only four common ones:

Bings are sweet red cherries and dark red when ripe. They taste sweet with just a bit of tartness and are suitable for snacking, salads, ice cream, or baked goods.

Rainiers are sweet cherries that are yellow and reddish-pink. They are good in salads and for snacking.

Queen (Royal) Anne cherries are sweet and look like Rainiers but are more tart. They are often covered in chocolate for candies, used in baking, and to make modern maraschino cherries.

Montmorency cherries are sour cherries primarily grown in the state of Michigan. They are light red, tart, and can be used year-round because they are often canned, dried, or frozen. They are used in pies, cobblers, and, if dried, in trail mix or salads.

Fruit from the Black cherry tree (*Prunus serotina*) can be eaten raw, and the cherries are also added to baked goods, jelly, wine, and yogurt. They are sweet cherries and are dark red to almost black when ripe. In addition, black cherry wood is used in cabinet and furniture-making.

## How to Pick, Buy, & Eat

When picking cherries, make sure they are firm, plump, and shiny, with attached green stems. There should be no bruises, cracks, holes, or wrinkles. Bing cherries should be dark red and Rainier cherries bright yellow and red.

Store unwashed cherries immediately in a plastic bag in the refrigerator with their stems attached. Try to eat or cook them within seven days. Rinse in a colander before using, and then pat them dry with a kitchen or paper towel.

Cherry cake, pie, cobblers, crisps, and tarts are popular desserts. Cherries are also made into jelly or preserves, ice cream, milkshakes, syrups, and sauces to accompany grilled or roasted meat. Raw cherries are great for a snack, but they can also be sliced or chopped to add to salads.

Maraschino cherries are sour cherries soaked in sweet syrup. They are used to garnish ice cream, gelatin desserts, pudding, milkshakes, cocktails, and soft drinks (especially cherry sodas).

It takes about 80 cherries to make a homemade cherry pie!

## Nutrition

Cherries have a moderate amount of vitamin C and fiber, and sour cherries have about 50 percent more vitamin C than sweet cherries.

Some studies indicate that cherries, which have antioxidants, help repair damage to the cells of our bodies and aid our muscles in their recovery after a strenuous workout. They also may help prevent gout or ease its pain and can be used as a sleep aid.

Some of these purported health benefits require eating a lot of cherries, so it may be beneficial to drink a concentrated cherry juice instead.

As their names imply, sweet cherries contain more sugar than the sour varieties, but you would not want to eat the sour type raw.

A cherry pit is inedible, and the kernel inside it is toxic if ingested in large amounts.