



Banana Cake with Caramel Frosting, page 72



Angel Food Ice-Cream Cake, page 197

WHO COULD BELIEVE THESE CAKES EVER CAME OUT OF A BOX?

By enhancing packaged cake mix with just the right additions, even the least confident baker can turn out signature desserts. From Devilishly Good Chocolate Cake to a to-die-for Caramel Cake to coffee cakes, sheet cakes, bars, brownies, and frostings, here are **175 fast, foolproof recipes** that marry the convenience, ease, and dependability of commercial cake mixes with a dash of creativity, a spoonful of richness, and a cup of pure inspiration.



From the Doctor's Pantry

FLAVOR BOOSTERS • Lemon zest, nuts, coffee, poppy seeds, grated coconut, unsweetened cocoa powder, peppermint schnapps, fresh strawberries

MAKING IT RICHER • Buttermilk, whipping cream, sour cream, eggs, yogurt, butter, peach puree

OFFSETTING THE CAKE MIX TASTE • Dry sherry, lime zest, pure almond extract



Gingerbread House,
page 218

ANNE BYRN is a national award-winning newspaper and magazine food writer with 20 years of experience. She is the former food editor of the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, and the author of *Cooking in the New South* and *Food Gifts for All Seasons*. She also hosts a weekly radio show, *Food Bites*, on WNAH-AM in Nashville, Tennessee, where she lives with her family in the heart of the Cake Belt.

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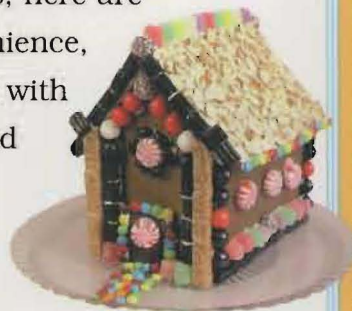


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South and Food Gifts for All radio show, *Food Bites*, on the radio, where she lives with her husband, Dr. Byrn, in the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina. Visit her at www.doctor.com.

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