

# Christmas Tree Cookies

Make this holiday dessert that literally pops off the plate and amazes your friends and family. Children will exercise their baking skills and spread holiday cheer when they make these easy yet impressive sugar cookies. Coated in delicious icing and painted with small sprigs of herbs, each cookie is a work of art. For perfect cookies every time, use our template.

## What You Need:

- Cookie dough
- Rolling pin
- Knife
- Baking Sheet
- Royal icing
- Food coloring
- Small herb leaves for painting
- Tree cookie cutter or template



## What You Do:

1. Prepare a batch of store-bought or homemade sugar cookie dough, and have your child roll out the dough to about 1/4" thick.
2. Cut out tree shapes using a cookie cutter or our failproof template. If using a cookie cutter, cut out the trees and divide them into two batches. In one batch, cut halfway down the top of tree that is about 1/4" wide. In the other batch, cut the same size slit at the bottom of the tree, up from the trunk.
3. Or if you're using the template, print it out on card stock, cut out the tree shapes, lay them on the dough and carefully cut around the templates using a knife.
4. Lay the cookies on a baking tray about an inch apart from each other and bake according to directions. Let cool completely.
5. Have your child mix up a batch of tinted royal icing with some green food coloring.
6. Coat the cookies with icing by carefully dipping one side of them into the icing, or spreading the icing on with a knife. If icing gets into the cracks of the trees, make sure to wipe it off.
7. Dry over night, until it has smooth, matte finish.
8. Now it's time to assemble the cookies! Carefully fit the trees with opposite slits together. If using the template, insert cookie "A" into cookie "B". The cookies should form a cross-section and be able to stand upright on a plate!
9. Decorate your trees with icing, sprinkles, or use this amazing technique: dip small herbs like lavender or rosemary into green food coloring, gently shake off excess color, and press them onto the trees.

If you're making a gingerbread house this year, these trees would be the coolest addition to the yard!