

# A Valentine's Day Treat ~ Cashew Turtles You Can't Resist!

## Ingredients:

1 bag of Kraft caramels (they come individually wrapped in a bag)

½ tsp of vanilla flavoring.

¾ tsp. of water.

Approximately 1 lb of jumbo cashews. Lightly salted is best otherwise just salted.

1 bag of chocolate melts; your choice either milk or dark chocolate. You can find these at Michaels.

You'll need 2 lightly buttered pizza pans or cookie baking sheets.

A double boiler.

A frosting bag with a Round Tip #3 IF you want to decorate each turtle. If you do, 1 bag of contrasting chocolate melts will be needed.

You will be able to make approximately 15 turtles per pizza pan or cookie sheet; 30 total with 1 bag of caramels.



## Directions:

Unwrap all of the caramels and put them in the top portion of the double boiler. Your water level in the bottom part should be just below the bottom of the upper pan. You'll want the water to be very hot but not boiling.

Add the vanilla and water to the caramels and let it all begin to melt. While this is going on, arrange clusters of cashews in "roundish" shapes. You want to do your best to keep out any "holes" in these clusters to prevent the caramel from going through to the pan/sheet.

You'll need to stir the melting caramels until the consistency is smooth. Remove the entire double boiler from the heat and place next to the cashew clusters. Using a soup spoon "drizzle" caramel over the cashews. You may want a little more in the center of each turtle. The caramel acts as a binder to keep all of the cashews together.

When you have finished all the caramel clean the double boiler and use it for melting the chocolate. Never let the water get to a boil or the chocolate will not work; you'll have to melt a new batch. Use a spoon to cover the caramel with the chocolate. Some of the caramel should be visible on each turtle.

If you want to decorate each one (see photo) melt the "other" chocolate – takes very little for this part; spoon into the frosting bag with a #3 tip and decorate any way/design that pleases you!

For gift giving, I individually wrap each turtle in clear cellophane and use a round sticker to seal the wrapper on the underside of each turtle. **ENJOY!**