# Methods of Combining Flour Mixtures: THE BISCUIT METHOD 

## WHAT MAKES THIS METHOD DIFFERENT?

$>$ the use of a solid fat which is cut into the flour mixture until crumbly
$>$ the combining of the liquid ingredients gradually into the dry ingredients by tossing or stirring with a fork until the dough starts to form a ball
$>$ the kneading of the dough gently and quickly
$>$ the rolling out of the dough to the correct thickness

## THE STEPS IN MAKING BISCUITS:

1. Sift together the dry ingredients.
2. Cut-in the solid fat until crumbly.
3. Gradually toss in the liquid to form a ball.
4. Place dough on a lightly floured surface
 and knead gently.
5. Roll out dough to specified thickness and cut with a biscuit cutter.

| BISCUIT SCORECARD |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| Good Biscuits | Poor Biscuits |
| Appearance <br> - Golden brown tops, sides lighter <br> - Symmetrical shape <br> - Uniform size <br> - Smooth level top | Appearance <br> - Low volume <br> - Dark bottom crust <br> - Too pale <br> - Brown spots <br> - Excess flour on crust |
| Texture <br> - Light and flaky, peeling off in thin layers <br> - Medium-fine grain <br> - Slightly moist | Texture <br> - Coarse, uneven cells <br> - Too dry <br> - Soggy or heavy |
| Tenderness <br> - Crisp and tender crust <br> - Moist and tender on inside | Tenderness <br> - Tough <br> - Crumbly, not flaky |
| Flavour <br> - Pleasing, well blended <br> - No taste of bitterness | Flavour <br> - Bitter taste <br> - Burned |

## BISCUIT FACTS AND TIPS:

- It only takes a short time to bake biscuits in a hot oven.
- Biscuits are a member of the soft dough class of flour mixtures and an example of a quickbread.
- Clean counter or pastry board by scraping with a straight edge spatula and wiping with a damp cloth.
- Do not wash rolling pins in dish water. Instead, wipe thoroughly with a damp cloth.
- Do not use too much flour on the counter/pastry board
 or handle the biscuit dough too much in the kneading and rolling process or biscuits will become tough and not rise as high.


## MIXING TERMS:

- Kneading: to work dough with heels of hands using a push, fold, and turn action

- Cutting in: to work fat into dry ingredients using a pastry blender in an up and down motion
- Tossing: to use a fork to stir with a light lifting action

- Rolling: to flatten the dough using a rolling pin

