

4 Cozy Drink Recipes

November is a great month to try your hand at creating delicious and cozy warm drinks for your residents. If you aren't ready to become a barista, you can always enlist the assistance of your talented dining team!

Here are four drinks that you can try in a taste testing event or pass out one option each week of the month. Don't feel like you have to stick with the names of the drinks either; you can tweak each one to match your community.

Pumpkin Spice Latte

(inspired by [Inspired Taste](#))

- Ingredients to make 2 drinks (adjust to create a larger batch)
 - 2 cups milk
 - 2T pumpkin puree (you can use the store bought kind from the can)
 - 1-2 T sugar to taste (you can also use simple syrup or a vanilla syrup)
 - 1T vanilla extract
 - ½ t pumpkin pie spice
 - ½ cup brewed hot coffee
 - Whipped cream
- Mix the milk, puree, vanilla, and sugar until it is not clumpy. You can warm this ahead of time, but it is not necessary
- Mix in the pumpkin pie spice and coffee
- Top with whipped cream
- Garnish with a pumpkin frosted cookie

Chai Tea Latte

- Ingredients to make 2 drinks (adjust to create a larger batch)
 - 2 cups of brewed chai tea
 - 2 cups of warm milk
 - 1 t vanilla extract
 - 1T simple syrup or vanilla syrup
 - Cinnamon

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- Mix ingredients together and top with a sprinkle of cinnamon
- Garnish with a gingersnap cookie or biscotti

Hot Chocolate

(made in the crockpot and inspired by [The Country Cook](#))

- Ingredients for a batch to fill your crockpot (this is a great activity to start as a group in the morning and then sample the result later in the afternoon)
 - ¼ cup cocoa powder
 - 14 oz sweetened condensed milk
 - 6 cups whole milk
 - 2 cups heavy whipping cream
 - 2 cups semisweet chocolate chips
- Throw everything in the crockpot and set to low for at least 2 hours. Stir frequently.
- Garnish with marshmallows, of course!

Warm Cranberry Apple Cider

(Inspired by [Tastes of Lizzy T](#))

- Ingredients to make 14 servings
 - 2 quarts apple cider
 - 1 ½ quarts 100% cranberry juice
 - ½ cup sugar
 - ¼ cup brown sugar
 - 1t cloves
 - 1t allspice
 - 3 cinnamon sticks
- Put everything in a pot and simmer. Before serving, strain out cinnamon sticks and other spices if needed
- Garnish with cranberries or a slice of an orange

COVID-19 Adaptation: You can easily transform your activity cart to a Coffee Shop inspired cart,

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passing drinks to residents as you pass by. You can also share the cozy drink of the week recipe and encourage residents to submit a name for the concoction.