

Orange Pomander

What to do

1. Mix the powder and spices together, roll the orange in the mixture and rub it into the orange skin.
2. Wrap two lengths of masking tape around the orange to divide it into 4 vertical segments.
3. Being careful not to get the juice squirting near your face, use a small skewer or tapestry needle to make a row of holes in straight lines across the orange within each segment, push the cloves into the holes then make another row of holes close to them (the cloves should just be touching). Fill all the segments of the orange with cloves. Roll the orange in the powder and spices again, place in a paper bag with the mixture to 'cure' for approximately 3 weeks. It needs to be stored in a dry warm place. Check regularly for signs of mould under the tape. After 3 weeks, remove the tape and replace it with the ribbon tied around the orange to hang in a cupboard or leave around the house to enjoy the scent.

Variations:

Use marker pens to draw a shape on the orange then make holes within it and fill with cloves eg faces, stars, letters.

Use a lemon or lime instead.

If you don't want to wait 3 weeks, or 'cure' it, just stud the orange with cloves and just enjoy the scent and orange for as long as it looks okay; probably 1 to 2 weeks.

If you have preserved the finished orange in the powder mixture and dried it well, it will last many years and make an unusual christmas gift.



You will need

1 orange

Approx. 4 ounces of whole cloves

2 tablespoons of orris root powder
(obtainable from www.Baldwins.co.uk)

2 teaspoons of ground nutmeg

1 tablespoon of cinnamon

4 drops of mandarin essential oil

Red/gold or green ribbon
and masking tape of similar width



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