



How to Make Perfect Scones



4.9 from 304 reviews

Prep Time: 30 minutes **Cook Time:** 25 minutes **Total Time:** 1 hour

Yield: 8 large or 16 small scones

Use this basic scone dough for any sweet scone variety. See blog post for a couple savory scone options. Feel free to increase the vanilla extract and/or add other flavor extracts such as lemon extract or coconut extract. Read through the recipe before beginning. You can skip the chilling for 15 minutes prior to baking, but I highly recommend it to prevent the scones from over-spreading.

Ingredients

2 cups (250g) **all-purpose flour** (spoon & leveled), plus more for hands and work surface

1/2 cup (100g) **granulated sugar**

1/2 teaspoon **salt**

2 and 1/2 teaspoons **baking powder**

1/2 cup (1 stick; 115g) **unsalted butter**, frozen

1/2 cup (120ml) **heavy cream** or **buttermilk** (plus 2 Tbsp for brushing)

1 large **egg**

1 and 1/2 teaspoons **pure vanilla extract**

1–1.5 cups **add-ins** such as chocolate chips, berries, nuts, fruit, etc

optional: 1/2 – 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon, coarse sugar, and toppings such as vanilla icing, salted caramel, lemon icing, maple icing, brown butter icing, lemon curd, orange icing, raspberry icing, dusting of confectioners' sugar

Instructions

- 1 Whisk flour, sugar, salt, and baking powder together in a large bowl. Grate the frozen butter using a box grater. Add it to the flour mixture and combine with a pastry cutter, two forks, or your fingers until the mixture comes together in pea-sized crumbs. See video above for a closer look at the texture. Place in the refrigerator or freezer as you mix the wet ingredients together.
- 2 Whisk 1/2 cup heavy cream, the egg, and vanilla extract together in a small bowl. Drizzle over the flour mixture, add the add-ins, then mix together until everything appears moistened.
- 3 **To make triangle scones:** Pour onto the counter and, with floured hands, work dough into a ball as best you can. Dough will be sticky. If it's too sticky, add a little more flour. If it seems too dry, add 1-2 more Tablespoons heavy cream. Press into an 8-inch disc and, with a sharp knife or bench scraper, cut into 8 wedges. For smaller scones, press dough into two 5-inch discs and cut each into 8 wedges. **To make 10-12 drop scones:** Keep mixing dough in the bowl until it comes together. Drop scones, about 1/4 cup of dough each, 3 inches apart on a lined baking sheet.
- 4 Brush scones with remaining heavy cream and for extra crunch, sprinkle with coarse sugar. (You can do this before or after refrigerating in the next step.)
- 5 Place scones on a plate or lined baking sheet (if your fridge has space!) and refrigerate for at least 15 minutes.
- 6 Meanwhile, preheat oven to 400°F (204°C).
- 7 Line a large baking sheet with parchment paper or silicone baking mat(s). If making mini or drop scones, use 2 baking sheets. After refrigerating, arrange scones 2-3 inches apart on the prepared baking sheet(s).

- 8 Bake for 18-26 minutes or until golden brown around the edges and lightly browned on top. Larger scones take closer to 25 minutes. Remove from the oven and cool for a few minutes before topping with optional toppings listed in the ingredients.
- 9 Leftover scones keep well at room temperature for 2 days or in the refrigerator for 5 days.

Notes

- 1 **Special Tools:** [Glass Mixing Bowls](#), [Box Grater](#), [Pastry Cutter](#), [Baking Sheet](#), [Silpat Baking Mat](#), [Pastry Brush](#)
- 2 **Freezing Instructions & Scone Flavors:** See blog post above.
- 3 If adding fruit, use fresh or frozen. If frozen, do not thaw. Peel fruits such as apples, peaches, or pears before chopping.
- 4 **Overnight Instructions:** Prepare scones through step 4. Cover and refrigerate overnight. Continue with the recipe the following day.
- 5 **Over-spreading:** Start with very cold scone dough. Expect some spread, but if the scones are over-spreading as they bake, remove from the oven and press back into its triangle shape (or whatever shape) using a rubber spatula.



Did you make this recipe?

Tag [@sallysbakeblog](#) on Instagram and hashtag it [#sallysbakingaddiction](#)

Find it online: <https://sallysbakingaddiction.com/scones-recipe/>