

*Pumpkin*  
*Cucurbita pepo*

Pollinated By:  
Honey Bee  
Bumble Bee  
Squash Bee  
Apis mellifera  
Bombus impatiens  
Peponapis pruinosa



Illustration by Steve Buchanan

**FUN FACT!**

Did you know that gourds, squashes, and pumpkins have their very own pollinator? Squash bees (*Peponapis pruinosa*) occur throughout much of the United States and Mexico, where they are important pollinators of plants in the genus *Cucurbita*. You can thank them for this delicious pie!

# PUMPKIN CHIFFON PIE

by Adam Rapoport, of Bon Apétit

## Ingredients

**Crust**

- 12 graham crackers
- 2 Tbsp. sugar
- ¼ tsp. kosher salt
- 6 Tbsp. unsalted butter, melted, slightly cooled

**Filling**

- 1 envelope unflavored gelatin (2½ tsp.)
- 1 tsp. ground cinnamon
- ¼ tsp. ground nutmeg
- ¾ (scant) cup plus 2 Tbsp. sugar, divided
- ¾ tsp. kosher salt, divided
- 3 large egg yolks
- ¾ cup whole milk
- 1 ¼ cups unsweetened pumpkin purée (from one 15-oz. can)
- 3 large egg whites
- ¾ cup heavy cream
- ¼ cup sour cream

**YIELD:**  
**ONE 9" PIE**

## Directions

1. Preheat oven to 325°. Pulse graham crackers in a food processor until broken down into fine crumbs (you should have about 2 cups). Set aside 2 Tbsp. graham cracker crumbs for serving. Add sugar and salt and pulse just to combine. Add butter and pulse until mixture is the consistency of wet sand.
2. Transfer to a 9½"-diameter deep pie dish. Using a measuring cup, press crumbs firmly onto bottom and up sides of dish. Bake crust until fragrant and edges just start to take on color, 20-25 minutes. Transfer to a wire rack and let cool.
3. Stir gelatin, cinnamon, nutmeg, a scant ½ cup sugar, and ½ tsp. salt in a small saucepan. Whisk egg yolks and milk in a small bowl to combine, then whisk into sugar mixture. Cook over medium heat, stirring frequently, until mixture begins to thicken and coats the back of a spoon (but do not let it boil), about 5 minutes. Stir in pumpkin purée and remove from heat. Transfer to a large bowl and chill until cool, about 10 minutes.
4. Meanwhile, using an electric mixer on medium-high speed, beat egg whites in a large bowl until soft peaks form. With the motor running, gradually add a scant ¼ cup sugar and continue to beat until stiff peaks form, 5-7 minutes.
5. Mix one-third of egg white mixture into chilled pumpkin mixture until smooth. Gently fold remaining egg white mixture into pumpkin mixture in 2 additions until incorporated, but don't overmix.
6. Pour filling into graham cracker crust; smooth top. Cover and chill overnight.
7. Vigorously whisk cream in a large bowl until medium peaks form. Fold in sour cream and remaining 2 Tbsp. sugar and ¼ tsp. salt just to combine. If the cream looks like it could use another whisk or two to hold medium peaks, give it a whisk until it reaches the desired consistency. Using a large spoon, dollop a generous amount of whipped cream in the center of pie. Sprinkle with reserved graham cracker crumbs. Slice and serve with any remaining whipped cream alongside.