

Disney Star
ZENDAYA

Making Candy at Home

MOM AND DAUGHTER CREATE
SWEET MEMORIES WITH HOMEMADE
CHOCOLATE GIFTS

EXCLUSIVE ARTISTS: STYLING: LAW ROACH; FOOD STYLING: REBECCA PARK; HAIR STYLING: SCOTT HORNBERG; LEO; TOP AND PANTS: ZENOHAW; DRESS: APRON: GIGI TOLE

PEPPERMINT BARK
Candy-cane inspired chocolate "brings holiday fun," Zendeys says.



PEANUT BUTTER BALLS
"Just throw in a ball, cover it in chocolate, and spoon it out!" she says.



CHOCOLATE CASHEW TURTLES
"My mom has to hide these from me," says Zendeys.



She's the star of Disney's hit sitcom Shake It Up, a budding pop singer with a self-titled album, and a not-too-shabby dancer—she finished second on last season's *Dancing with the Stars*. But Zendeys also excels at candy making. "I'm a chocolate addict," says the 17-year-old 11th-grader, who relishes "making something for other people to enjoy." She and her mother, Claire, not only whip up candy for their family, "we made peanut butter balls for a Shake It Up Christmas party," says Zendeys, "and they were gone fast!" Mother and daughter began their tradition when Zendeys was 3. "I wanted the holidays to be about putting your heart into something that's meaningful," says Claire. For Zendeys, it's also an exercise in self-restraint. "The hardest part," she says, "is leaving them in the refrigerator without eating them!"



A Family Affair
Zendeys' mom, Claire, 38, and Zendeys, 17, get in on the candy-making fun. It's a nice reason the season is so special to Zendeys. "Our family gets to spend time together," she says. "Life is normally so busy—the holidays are when we can relax and not do anything."



EASY TO DO!

CHOCOLATE-CASHEW TURTLES

Makes 2 dozen

- 72 cashews (or pecan halves), toasted
- 1 (11-oz.) package of caramel candies, unsmuggled
- 1½ tbsp. butter
- 1 (12-oz.) package of milk chocolate morsels

1. In clusters of three, arrange nuts 2 in. apart on 2 waxed-paper-lined baking sheets.
2. Microwave caramel candies and butter on low (30%) power 4 to 6 minutes, stirring frequently, until smooth. Spoon 1 tsp. caramel over each cluster; cool 15 minutes.
3. Microwave chocolate morsels on medium (50%) power 1½ minutes, stirring frequently, until smooth. Spoon 1 tsp. chocolate over each candy; smooth with spatula. Chill candies until firm.
4. Store candies airtight between layers of waxed paper in refrigerator up to 2 weeks.

PEPPERMINT BARK

Makes about 115 lbs.

- 4 (3.53-oz.) bars Belgian milk chocolate
- 1 (12-oz.) package white chocolate morsels
- ½ cup crushed peppermint candies

1. Microwave milk chocolate at medium (50%) power 1½ minutes, stir. Continue heating in 15- to 30-second intervals, stirring until smooth. Spread chocolate over waxed-paper-lined baking sheet. Chill until firm.
2. Melt white chocolate morsels as directed for melting milk chocolate. Spread evenly over chilled milk chocolate. Sprinkle with crushed candies. Chill until firm.
3. Break into small pieces. Store airtight between layers of waxed paper in refrigerator up to 2 weeks.

PEANUT BUTTER BALLS

Makes 7 dozen

- 2 cups chunky peanut butter
- 1 (16-oz.) box powdered sugar
- 1½ cups graham cracker crumbs
- 1¼ cup (6 oz.) unsalted butter (softened)
- 2 (12-oz.) packages milk or semisweet chocolate morsels

1. Beat peanut butter and next 3 ingredients with electric mixer at low speed until blended. Shape mixture evenly into ¾ (1-in.) balls; place on waxed-paper-lined baking sheets. Cover and chill until firm.
2. Microwave chocolate morsels at medium (50%) power 1½ minutes, stir. Continue heating in 15- to 30-second intervals, stirring until smooth. Dip chilled peanut butter balls into chocolate, using a fork, to coat evenly; return balls to baking sheets. Chill until firm.
3. Store candies airtight between layers of waxed paper in refrigerator up to 2 weeks.

PHOTO: JESSICA SHERMAN/GETTY IMAGES

Holiday gift guide



Zendaya

The 17-year-old singer, author and star of the Disney Channel series *Shake It Up* finds fun gifts teenagers will put to good use

gifts for tweens & teens



FOR A GUY

THE GIVING KEYS

"The words on these necklaces have meaning and substance." Classic Pendants, \$35 each; thegivingkeys.com

HEADPHONE JACKET
"It's perfect for teens because we listen to music 24/7," says Zendaya. HBsuper by Hoodie Buddie hb Institute jacket, \$102; hoodiebuddie.com



MEANINGFUL TEE

"It's not just about the gift—it's what comes along with it." FEED "Feed the Children" T-shirt, \$33 (provides 10 meals for children globally); feedprojects.com



DETANGLING HAIRBRUSH

"My friend has this, and it actually works! I think I need one in my life." Tangle Teezer Salon Elite hairbrush, \$16; urbanoutfitters.com

ZENDAYA
"Nice to work out to," is how Zendaya describes her self-titled debut album. (She also released a book, *Between U and Me.*) \$10.99; bn.com



LIP TINTS

"These colors are so sheer, you can wear them to school." Fresh Sugar Rush mini lip collection, \$42 (for set of 5); qvc.com



PRETTY POLISHES

"Girls love manicures! This set lets you try out colors and do fun nail art." Jenna Hipp 12-piece nail polish collection, \$14.99; costco.com



"ICON-IC" WATCH

"Teens are obsessed with texting and emojis. This makes a great statement piece." TKO Orlogi TKO-ji watches, \$50 each; tkowatches.com