

## A Growing Measure Math in my Life #2

I like to cook - all sorts of things - and generally as many things at once as I can manage! The difficulty is that I don't particularly like doing dishes, but can't afford a dishwasher, so I'm always trying to figure out how to cook without dirtying any dishes.

When I'm baking, I measure all of the dry ingredients into a big bowl first. Many recipes then tell me to measure the wet ingredients into another bowl. But I don't like to dirty two bowls, so I tend to put all of the wet ingredients into one measuring cup, and then add that mixture to the dry ingredients. At the end of the operation, my dirty dishes are a bowl, a measuring cup, a mixing spoon, a mixing fork (for the liquid ingredients) and an assortment of measuring cups and spoons. Oh, and the cake/muffin/cookie pan is dirty too.

The thing about measuring all of the wet ingredients into one container, means that I have to add quantities all the time. For example, the other day I made a Lime Chiffon Pie (yum!) where the liquid ingredients and my interpretation of them went like this:

**1/3 c lime juice**

So I measure 1/3 cup lime juice into the measuring cup.

**2/3 c water**

So I add water till the liquid amount is

$$\frac{1}{3} + \frac{2}{3} = 1$$

c liquid.

That was an easy one. The recipes don't always work out that nicely. One peach cake recipe I make has 1/3 cup orange juice and 1/4 cup honey. So then my measuring cup must contain

$$\frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} = \frac{4}{12} + \frac{3}{12} = \frac{7}{12} = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{12}$$

My measuring cup isn't divided into 12ths, so I have to fudge a little, which is why my cakes are never the same from one batch to the next...