## Easy Chocolate Ice Cream

## Serves 4 (1 quart)

Not only is it easy, but it uses easily available ingredients and no special equipment. Make in the morning and serve in the evening (requires 6 hours in freezer) or make way ahead (up to 2 weeks ahead).

## Ingredients:

| 1 teaspoon instant coffee or espresso | $1 / 2$ cup sweetened condensed milk |
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| $\quad$ powder (optional, but best) | $1 / 2$ teaspoon vanilla extract |
| 1 tablespoon hot water | Pinch of salt |
| 4 ounces bittersweet chocolate | $1 / 4$ cups cold heavy cream |
| chopped fine |  |

1. Combine instant coffee (or espresso powder) and hot water in small bowl. Let stand until coffee dissolves ( $\sim 5$ minutes).
2. Microwave chocolate, sweetened condensed milk, and coffee mixture in a bowl, stirring every 10 seconds, until chocolate is melted ( $\sim 1$ minute)
3. Stir in vanilla and salt.
4. Let chocolate mixture cool.
5. With electric mixer on medium-high speed, whip cream to soft peaks ( $\sim 2$ minutes).
6. Whisk one-third of whipped cream into chocolate mixture
7. Fold remaining whipped cream into chocolate mixture until incorporated.
8. Freeze in airtight container until firm (at least 6 hours or up to 2 weeks).

A great serving idea is to use this ice cream to make chocolate/chocolate ice cream sandwiches. Take frozen ice cream, cut into $1 / 2 "$ to $3 / 4 "$ slices, and cut slices into small rounds with a biscuit cutter. Make sandwich using two chocolate wafers. Makes 6-10 sandwiches (depending on the thickness of the slices).

