CAKE CRAVINGS CHRONICLE ISSUE 7 OCTOBER 2024









FOR THE LOVE OF LAMBETH PIPING

TO OUR READERS

Welcome to another delicious edition of Cake Craving Chronicles!

This week, we're diving deep into the enchanting world of Lambeth Piping, a timeless British cake decorating technique that's made its way back into the spotlight of modern bakeries.

Whether you're a hobbyist baker, a cake connoisseur, or just a fan of exquisitely ornate cakes, Lambeth Piping offers a visual feast as much as a delightful sweet bite.





The Lambeth Method, named after the famed Lambeth School of Art in London, first gained popularity in the early 20th century. Known for its intricate designs and regal

appeal, it was the go-to style for show-stopping wedding cakes and celebration cakes. Each design layer builds on the last, creating tiers of piped beauty—swirls, scrolls, garlands, and strings that look as if they belong in a royal dining room. Many may remember that Lambeth Piping graced the wedding cake of Queen Elizabeth II, making it a time-honoured tradition in British baking.



FEATURE DESIGN OF THE MONTH: KITSCH AT ITS BEST

We were absolutely buzzing when this order came through – our first proper crack at a truly kitsch Lambeth-style design for the fabulous Los Bitchos' album cover!

Little did we know they'd come back for more – two more, in fact! One for the music video and another for the launch party.

You might think, "Piece of cake!" but oh no – matching such specific colours from just a photo? Not as simple as it sounds!

But we nailed it in the end. And doesn't the cover look amazing?

TECHNIQUE: A TEST OF SKILL

Don't let the delicate beauty of Lambeth Piping fool you—it's no simple task. Mastering this method requires a steady hand, patience, and precision. The technique layers thick royal icing to create three-dimensional patterns. Using several piping tips—typically round, star, and leaf nozzles—decorators create raised elements that overlap, intertwine, and curl into each other.



The layers are piped in different stages, letting each level dry before adding the next. This method of piping on top of itself gives Lambeth its signature 3D elegance, making cakes seem almost sculpted. It's easy to see why Lambeth-style cakes were, and still are, symbols of luxury.



RESURGENCE IN POPULARITY

Though Lambeth Piping went out of vogue with the rise of more minimalist cake designs, it's been making a fabulous comeback in the world of cake artistry. Bakers today are embracing vintage designs, and nothing quite compares to the grandeur of the Lambeth method. Modern takes often fuse the traditional style with contemporary colours and

themes, think pastel hues, metallic accents, and even ombre effects, all layered with intricate scrollwork.

This revival speaks to a yearning for the artistry and craftsmanship that made cakes more than just dessert; they become centrepieces.

WHY WE LOVE IT!

At Cake Craving Chronicles, we've always had a soft spot for anything that blends tradition with artistry, and Lambeth Piping is the ultimate expression of that. Each cake is not just a treat but a testament to skill, dedication, and the ability to transform simple ingredients into works of art.

So, whether you're admiring Lambeth cakes from afar or feeling brave enough to try it out in your own kitchen, we hope this edition has left you inspired. Lambeth Piping reminds us that sometimes, the old ways are the best ways—and cake can be both a feast for the eyes and the taste buds.



Check out our new Lambeth Piping Workshop Dates are on our website now

Follow us on social media (@EssenceofCakeUK) and subscribe to our newsletter to be the first to know about the latest happenings at Essence of Cake.

Until next time, happy baking and decorating!