

How is peanut brittle made?

From the sweeties.net wiki

Brittle is a sweet made of flat, broken pieces of hard sugar candy with nuts such as pecans, almonds or peanuts set into it. It is usually less than 1 cm thick. In the United States, peanut brittle is the most popular brittle recipe.

How American peanut brittle is made

1. **Boil to hard crack.** Sugar and water are heated to the hard crack stage, about 146 to 154°C. Some recipes add glucose and salt at this point: see [how are sweets made?](#)
2. **Add the peanuts.** The nuts are mixed into the hot, caramelised sugar.
3. **Enrich.** Spices, a raising agent, and often peanut butter or butter are added.
4. **Pour and spread.** The hot candy is poured onto a flat surface to cool, typically a granite or marble slab or a baking sheet, and may be spread to an even thickness.
5. **Break.** When it is cool enough to handle, it is broken into pieces. It is rare for brittle to break into equal pieces.

A sweet the world shares

The word brittle first appeared in print for the sweet in 1892, but the candy itself is much older, and it has variations around the world:

- **Chikki** in India, and **gachak** in Indian Punjab
- **Pasteli** in Greece
- **Croquant or nougatine** in France, where nougatine uses sliced almonds in clear caramel
- **Croccante** in Italy and **krokant** in Germany
- **Pé de moleque** in Brazil and **palanqueta** in Mexico
- **Gozinaki** in Georgia
- **Praline** in Louisiana, traditionally made with pecans

In parts of the Middle East brittle is made with pistachios, while many Asian countries use sesame seeds and peanuts.

Brittle, toffee and honeycomb

Brittle is cooked to the same hard crack stage as hard toffee, but it is built around nuts: see [how is toffee made?](#) Honeycomb toffee is aerated with baking soda instead: see [how is honeycomb toffee made?](#)

Allergens

Brittle is made with nuts, and peanuts and tree nuts are both among the 14 allergens that must be declared: see [which sweets contain nuts?](#)

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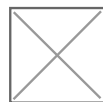
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