








# THE PANCAKE CHALLENGE

NATIONAL  
MUSEUM  
UNITED STATES  
ARMY

Ages 8+ (with adult guidance)

The staff at the United States Military Academy at West Point makes 8,800 pancakes in 6 hours. After watching "The Army Behind the Army: Math in the Mess Hall" video, let's see how YOU compare!

## INGREDIENTS

	Measurement	
Buttermilk	1/3 cup (24 gallons)	
Eggs	2 (1,440)	
Whole Milk	1/2 cup (31 1/2 gallons)	
Vanilla Extract	1 1/2 tbsp (6 gallons)	
Sugar	1 1/2 tbsp (42 lbs)	
Salt	1/4 tsp (2 1/4 lbs)	
Baking Powder	1 tbsp (30 lbs)	
Cake Flour	1 1/4 cup (300 lbs)	
Bread Flour	1/3 cup (90 lbs)	
Shortening	1 1/2 tbsp (6 gallons)	
Butter	1 cup (60 lbs)	

Makes 8-10 pancakes (amounts in parentheses make 8,800 pancakes).

## INSTRUCTIONS

1. In mixer at medium speed, combine buttermilk, eggs, milk, vanilla, sugar, salt, and baking powder for at least 30 seconds.
2. Slowly add cake flour. Whip out any lumps. Next, add bread flour. Once well combined, add shortening.
3. Pour into six-inch disks on oiled, medium-hot pan.

## YOUR MISSION

Record how long it takes you to measure each ingredient, mix them together, and cook a batch of pancakes.

How do you measure up with the staff at West Point?

# THE CHALLENGE



Time how long it takes you to measure and mix each ingredient, then cook a batch of pancakes!

Record your results below.

## CHEF 1



- Measuring ingredients:     \_\_\_ Seconds
- Cracking two eggs:         \_\_\_ Seconds
- Mixing (Step 1):           \_\_\_ Seconds
- Mixing all ingredients:     \_\_\_ Seconds
- Cooking 1 pancake:         \_\_\_ Minutes
- Cooking all batter:         \_\_\_ Minutes
- Total Time:**                \_\_\_ Minutes

## CHEF 2

- Measuring ingredients:     \_\_\_ Seconds
- Cracking two eggs:         \_\_\_ Seconds
- Mixing (Step 1):           \_\_\_ Seconds
- Mixing all ingredients:     \_\_\_ Seconds
- Cooking 1 pancake:         \_\_\_ Minutes
- Cooking all batter           \_\_\_ Minutes
- Total Time:                   \_\_\_ Minutes

## WEST POINT

- Measuring ingredients:     60 Minutes
- Mixing all ingredients:     120 Minutes
- Cooking all batter:         180 Minutes
- Total Time:**                360 Minutes

## HOW DID YOU STACK UP?

How do you match up with the staff at West Point?

Can you figure out how many minutes it would take for you to make 8,800 pancakes?

*Hint: it takes Army chefs 1 hour to make 587 pancakes.*



**National Museum  
of the United States Army**

1775 Liberty Drive  
Fort Belvoir, Virginia 22060-6205  
theNMUSA.org