

# *Alastair's winning iPad recipe*

**ALASTAIR Young believes the days of the recipe book are numbered. It makes sense – why keep referring to a long list of instructions when you can watch someone make the recipe for you on your iPad or laptop?**

So passionate home cook Alastair decided he could help amateur chefs all over the world by making videos of his recipes from his kitchen in Chorlton.

Now he has set up his own website, [TheAmateurChef.co.uk](http://TheAmateurChef.co.uk), to help amateurs, and even complete beginners, create perfect dishes. He describes it as “the UK's first cook-along recipe website”.

Alastair is a big fan of celebrity chefs like Gordon Ramsay, Marco Pierre White, Nigella and the rest but thinks their recipes can often be too hard for ordinary cooks to follow.

He said: “It's like football, what Wayne Rooney finds simple isn't what I find simple and what Gordon Ramsay finds easy isn't what ordinary people find easy.

“I wanted to create a fun, original website with realistic recipe timings and better explanations of techniques because I believe anyone can produce great tasting, attractive dishes on time if they're shown exactly what to do and when.”

He added: “There's no ‘Here's one I made earlier’ or creative video editing to make the dishes look better. All the photos from the site are from the videos. There's no jazzing it up. This is what gives it its authenticity.”

Alastair, 34, gave up a career in sales to turn his cooking obsession into a business and now hopes his website will take off.

“My wife Michelle has been very supportive,” Alastair added. “She films everything and it's all done in our own kitchen.”

Not just a collection of basic home recipes, TheAmateurChef tackles some of the most notoriously tricky dishes, such as souffles and warm chocolate fondants, proving they can be achieved without stress.

Visitors to the site are given the preparation time, how long they'll need to be in the kitchen cooking for and the total time before the dish is ready to serve. Written methods and photographs accompany each recipe for those who prefer to cook without the videos.

The site has also just launched a new Christmas food section including party platters, biscuits and hand-rolled chocolates – perfect to make as gifts and fun for children to get involved in.