



Pineapple Carrot Cake Bars with Cream Cheese Frosting



Introduction

Pineapple Carrot Cake Bars with Cream Cheese Frosting are a delightful treat that combines the sweetness of pineapple and carrots with the rich, creamy texture of frosting. Perfect for any occasion, these bars offer a moist and flavorful dessert that is sure to please a crowd. Whether you're hosting a party or simply want to indulge in a sweet snack, this recipe is a must-try.

Detailed Ingredients with measures

Carrots: 2 cups, grated

Crushed Pineapple: 1 cup, drained

All-Purpose Flour: 1 ½ cups Granulated Sugar: 1 cup

Brown Sugar: ½ cup

Baking Powder: 2 teaspoons Baking Soda: 1 teaspoon

Salt: ½ teaspoon

Cinnamon: 1 teaspoon Nutmeg: ½ teaspoon Vegetable Oil: ½ cup

Eggs: 2 large

Vanilla Extract: 1 teaspoon

Cream Cheese: 8 ounces, softened

Butter: ½ cup, softened Powdered Sugar: 3 cups

Milk: 2 tablespoons



Prep Time

20 minutes

Cook Time, Total Time, Yield

Cook Time: 30 minutes Total Time: 50 minutes

Yield: Approximately 12 bars





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Detailed Directions and Instructions

Preheat the Oven

Preheat your oven to 350°F (175°C). Prepare a 9×13 inch baking pan by lining it with parchment paper, leaving some overhang on the sides for easy removal.

Prepare the Dry Ingredients

In a medium bowl, whisk together the all-purpose flour, baking powder, baking soda, cinnamon, and salt. Set this mixture aside.

Mix the Wet Ingredients

In a large mixing bowl, combine the granulated sugar, brown sugar, and eggs. Mix until well blended. Then, add vanilla extract, crushed pineapple (with its juice), and grated carrots. Stir until everything is thoroughly combined.

Combine Dry and Wet Ingredients

Gradually add the dry ingredient mixture to the wet ingredients. Stir until just combined, being careful not to overmix. The batter will be slightly thick.

Transfer to Baking Pan

Pour the batter into the prepared baking pan and spread it evenly. Tap the pan gently on the counter to eliminate any air bubbles.

Bake the Cake Bars

Place the pan in the preheated oven and bake for 25-30 minutes, or until a toothpick inserted into the center comes out clean. Allow the cake to cool in the pan for about 10 minutes before removing it.



Prepare the Cream Cheese Frosting

In a mixing bowl, beat together the softened cream cheese and butter until creamy and well combined. Gradually add powdered sugar, mixing until smooth. Finally, add vanilla extract, stirring well.

Frost the Cake Bars

Once the cake has completely cooled, lift it out of the pan using the parchment paper overhang. Spread the cream cheese frosting evenly over the top of the cake bars.

Cut and Serve

Using a sharp knife, cut the cake into bars. Serve immediately or store in the refrigerator until ready to enjoy.

Notes

Storage Instructions

Store any leftover cake bars in an airtight container in the refrigerator for up to 5 days.

Flavor Variations

Consider adding shredded coconut or chopped nuts to the batter for extra texture and flavor.

Gluten-Free Option

For a gluten-free version, substitute the all-purpose flour with a gluten-free flour blend.



Serving Suggestions

These bars pair well with a cup of coffee or tea, making them a delightful treat at any time of the day.



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