

Caramel Cheesecake Apple Bars



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Recipe by: Laura Vitale

Makes 24 bars (or more depending on size)

Prep Time: 30 minutes

Cook Time: 50 minutes

Ingredients

For the crust:

- 2 cups of All Purpose Flour
- 1/2 tsp of Salt
- 1 cup (2 sticks) of Unsalted Butter, softened at room temperature
- 1/4 cup of Brown Sugar
- 1/4 cup of Granulated Sugar
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For the cheesecake filling:

- 2 8oz Blocks of Cream Cheese, softened at room temperature
- 2 Eggs
- 1/2 cup of Granulated Sugar
- 2 tsp of Vanilla Extract
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For the apples:

- 3 Tart Apples, peeled, cored and diced
- 2 Tbsp of Sugar
- 1 tsp of Cinnamon
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For the topping:

- 1 cup of Old Fashioned Oats
- 1/2 cup of All Purpose Flour
- 1/2 cup of Brown Sugar
- 1/2 tsp of Baking Powder
- 1/4 tsp of Salt
- 1/4 tsp of Cinnamon
- 6 Tbsp of Cold Unsalted Butter, cut into small pieces
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Additional:

- 1/3 cup of Caramel Sauce warmed so until nice and runny

1) Preheat your oven to 350 degrees, grease a 9x13 pan with some non-stick spray and set aside.

2) In the bowl of a standing mixer fitted with a paddle attachment, cream together the butter and both kinds of sugar for the crust, once well combined, add the flour and salt and mix until a dough forms. Press the dough into the bottom of your prepared pan, pop it in the oven for about 15 minutes or until the crust is lightly golden brown around the edges.

3) In the same bowl of your standing mixer with the paddle attachment, add the cream cheese and cream for about 30 seconds, then add the sugar, vanilla and eggs and mix until smooth, set aside.

4) Toss the apples with the sugar and cinnamon and set those aside as well while you make the topping.

5) In a large bowl, add all the ingredients for the topping and using a pastry cutter or a fork, cut the butter into the dry ingredients until its well incorporated.

6) When the crust is ready, pour the cheesecake filling in, then scatter the apples all over the filling and top with the crumble topping.

7) Bake for 30 to 40 minutes or until the edges are a lovely golden brown color, allow to cool to room temperature then pop them in the fridge for a minimum of 4 hours.

8) When ready to serve, drizzle over some warm caramel sauce and dig in!

