The Best Carrot Cake



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Recipe by: Laura Vitale

Serves 12

Prep Time: 20 minutes Cook Time: 40 minutes

Ingredients

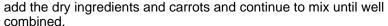
For the Cake:

- __2-1/4 cups of All Purpose Flour
- __2 tsp of Baking Powder
- __1 tsp of Baking Soda
- 1/2 tsp of Salt
- 2 tsp of Cinnamon
- __1/4 tsp of Nutmeg
- __1/8 tsp of Cloves
- __1/8 tsp of Ginger
- _4 Eggs
- __3/4 cups of Vegetable Oil
- __1 cup of Granulated Sugar
- __1 Cup of Brown Sugar
- __2 tsp of Vanilla Extract
- ___1/3 cup of Apple Sauce
- __1/3 cup of Sour Cream
- __2 1/2 cups of Finely Grated Carrots
- ___

For the Frosting:

- __12oz of Softened Cream Cheese
- __12 tbsp of Unsalted Butter, softened
- __2 tsp of Vanilla
- __3 cups of Powdered Sugar
- __1/4 to 1/2 tsp of Salt
- __1/2 cup of Chopped Toasted Pecans, optional

- 1) Preheat your oven to 350 degrees, grease and line 2 9 inch cake pans with parchment paper and set aside.
- 2) In a bowl, stir together the first 8 ingredients (all the dry) and set them aside.
- 3) In a large bowl (or in the bowl of a standing mixer fitted with a whisk attachment) whisk together the eggs, both sugars, oil, apple sauce, vanilla and sour cream, make sure they are mixed well then





- 4) Divide the mixture evenly in your prepared pans, then bake for 35-40 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean, set aside to cool completely.
- 5) To make the frosting, I find it easiest to do it in a standing mixer fitted with a paddle attachment, add the cream cheese, butter and vanilla and cream for a minute, then add the powdered sugar and mix until smooth and creamy.
- 6) Place one of the cakes on a cake stand, frost, then place the second cake on top and frost and decorate according to your liking. Sprinkle some toasted chopped pecans, refrigerate about an hour then serve.