Oats and Jam Bars



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Recipe by: Laura Vitale

Makes about 16 bars

Prep Time: 10 minutes Cook Time: 40 minutes

Ingredients

- __3/4 Cup of Unsalted Butter, at room temperature
- ____1/4 cup of Cream Cheese, at room temperature
- __1-1/4 Cups of All Purpose Flour
- 1 cup of Quick Cooking Oats
- __1/2 Cup of Brown Sugar
- __1/4 tsp of Salt
- __1 tsp of Vanilla Extract
- __zest of 1/2 of an Orange or 1 Clementine
- __3/4 Cup of Seedless Blackberry Jam
- __Juice of 1/2 of an Orange

- 1) Preheat the oven to 350 degrees, spray a 9X9 baking pan and line with parchment paper.
- 2) In a small bowl, mix together the flour, oats and salt, set aside.
- 3) In the bowl of a standing mixer fitted with a paddle attachment, cream together the cream cheese, butter and brown sugar, add the clementine zest and vanilla and incorporate everything together.



- 4) Add the dry ingredients and and mix everything together until combined.
- 5) Flour your hands well and press most of the dough into your prepared pan but reserve 1/2 cup of the dough for later.
- 6) Bake the dough for 15 minutes or until lightly golden.
- 7) In a small bowl, mix together the jam and orange juice and spread it evenly over the pre-baked base. Using 2 small spoons, drop little pieces of the reserved dough on top of the jam.
- 8) Pop it back in the oven for an additional 15 to 20 minutes or until the top is golden brown. Allow to cool completely and cut into small bars.