

Natural Fruit Cake

An all-natural fruit cake with pecans, dates, and pineapple!

Yield:

4-5 dozen small slices

Ingredients:

1 cup honey

4 eggs

1 cup whole wheat pastry flour*

2 teaspoons vanilla extract

1/2 teaspoon salt

12 ounces chopped pecans**

12 ounces dried pineapple slices, finely chopped

12 ounces dried pitted dates, finely chopped**

Instructions:

1. In a large bowl, combine the honey, eggs, flour, vanilla, and salt, stirring until well-mixed.

2. Add the nuts and dried fruit, and stir well.

3. Grease small loaf pans – either four 3×5-inch pans or six mini loaf pans (1.5×4.5-inch).

4. Pack fruit cake batter tightly into the greased pans and bake at

325 degrees for 45-55 minutes or until the cake tests done (clean

toothpick or fork in center). Edges will be browned.

5. Remove cake from pans and allow to cool on a wire rack. Slice thinly.

Fruit cake can be frozen (I wrap in wax paper and then in foil for freezing).



Natural Fruit Cake

This recipe is from Tammy's Recipes.

Chocolate Vanilla Swirl Cheesecake

A thick swirled cheesecake with rich chocolate and creamy vanilla

Yield:

16 servings

Ingredients:

Crust Ingredients:

1 cup chocolate graham cracker crumbs

4 tablespoons butter

2 tablespoons sugar

Cheesecake Ingredients:

6 ounces semisweet (53% or 62%) chocolate, coarsely chopped
(or chips)
24 ounces cream cheese, softened
3/4 cup sugar
1 tablespoon cornstarch
4 eggs, at room temperature
8 ounces sour cream
1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Instructions:

1.
Combine crust ingredients and press into the bottom of a greased*
8-inch springform pan.** Wrap the outside of the springform pan with aluminum foil to make it water-proof. Set foil-wrapped pan inside a large roasting pan.

2. Start making the cheesecake filling by first melting the chocolate in a double boiler or in the microwave (1 minute on HI). When melted, stir until smooth. Set aside.

3. In a large bowl, stir cream cheese, sugar, and cornstarch until creamy. (An electric mixer on low speed can be used, but it tends to incorporate air into the batter which increases the risk of cracking on top after or during baking.) Add eggs one at a time, stirring gently after each addition. Blend in the sour cream and vanilla, scraping the sides of the bowl as needed.

4. Add 3 cups of the cheesecake mixture to the melted

chocolate and

stir until smooth. Dollop both kinds of batter over prepared crust.

Using a knife, gently swirl batters together until marbelized, being

careful not to over-mix.

5. Transfer to an oven which has been preheated to 325 degrees. Pour

hot water into the roasting pan, to come halfway up the side of the

springform pan.***

6. Bake at 325 degrees for 70 minutes, or until set. Remove cheesecake from water and remove foil. Loosen the sides of the springform and cool cake on a wire rack. Refrigerate, uncovered, for 6 hours or overnight before serving. When cutting cheesecake, use a sharp knife and wash knife between cutting each slice.



Chocolate Vanilla Swirl Cheesecake

This recipe is from Tammy's Recipes.

Double Chocolate Italian Cheesecake

A
chocolate crust with a layer of creamy white chocolate
cheesecake
followed by a layer of dark chocolate cheesecake, topped with
a
semi-sweet chocolate glaze

Yield:

16 servings

Ingredients:

Crust Ingredients:

1 cup chocolate graham cracker crumbs
3 tablespoons melted butter
2 tablespoons sugar

Cheesecake Ingredients:

32 ounces cream cheese, softened
1/2 cup heavy whipping cream
4 tablespoons butter, softened
1 1/3 cups sugar
2 teaspoons vanilla extract
4 eggs
6 ounces bittersweet (or semi-sweet) chocolate, melted and
cooled to just above room temperature
6 ounces white chocolate, melted and cooled to just above room
temperature

Glaze Ingredients:

8 ounces semi-sweet chocolate, chopped
3/4 cup (1 1/2 sticks) butter

1 1/2 tablespoons light corn syrup

Instructions:

1.

Combine crust ingredients in a mixing bowl. Pour mixture into a greased 9-inch springform pan and press flat. Wrap the bottom and outside of the pan with foil. We recommend two layers of extra-wide heavy-duty foil. We also use a rectangular piece of cardboard (4-6 inches long and 2-3 inches wide) placed between the latch (on the outside of the springform) and the foil, to prevent the latch from piercing the foil.

2. Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Put softened cream cheese, whipping cream, softened butter, and sugar in a large bowl. Mix at medium-low speed just until smooth. Stir in vanilla. Add eggs one at a time and mix on low speed until blended.

3. Divide cream cheese mixture evenly into two bowls. Add melted bittersweet chocolate to one, stirring to mix. Add melted white chocolate to the other, stirring to mix.

4. Pour white chocolate cheesecake batter into prepared pan, smoothing into a flat layer. Gently spoon bittersweet chocolate in a layer over the white chocolate batter. Place springform pan in a large shallow roaster or broiler pan. Fill pan with an inch of hot water.

5. Bake 60-80 minutes or until edges are puffed and top looks dull and is dry to the touch. Center should move slightly when side of pan is tapped. Turn off oven. Let cheesecake stand in oven for an hour. Cool to room temperature; refrigerate overnight.

6. Make glaze by melting chocolate and butter over medium heat, stirring occasionally. Remove from heat and stir in corn syrup. Allow glaze to cool slightly (to about 80 degrees).

7. Remove sides from springform pan. Place cheesecake on a wire rack over a baking sheet or countertop. Pour glaze over top and sides of cheesecake, spreading with a spatula. Refrigerate until set. Slice into 16 pieces. Store in refrigerator or freeze for longer storage.



Double Chocolate Italian Cheesecake

This recipe is from Tammy's Recipes.

Vanilla Bean Cheesecake

A creamy vanilla cheesecake with vanilla bean specks

Yield:

16 servings

Ingredients:

Crust Ingredients:

1 1/2 cups graham cracker crumbs

3 tablespoons sugar

6 tablespoons butter, melted

Filling Ingredients:

24 ounces cream cheese, softened

1 vanilla bean pod

1 1/4 cups sugar

1 tablespoon corn starch

4 eggs

1/2 cup sour cream

2 tablespoons vanilla extract

Instructions:

1.

Combine crust ingredients in a mixing bowl and stir until well-mixed.

Press crumbs into a greased 9-inch springform pan, working crumbs up the sides of the pan if desired. Bake crust at 350 degrees for 10 minutes.

Remove from oven and set aside to cool.

2. Place softened cream cheese into a large bowl.

3. Scrape the soft inside seeds out of the vanilla bean. In a small bowl, stir the vanilla bean seeds into the sugar until evenly dispersed.

Add cornstarch and mix well.

4. Add sugar mixture to cream cheese; beat with mixer on medium-low until smooth (about 2 minutes).

5. Crack eggs into a separate bowl; add eggs one at a time to the filling mixture, beating on low speed and scraping down the sides after adding each egg. Add sour cream and vanilla extract.

6. Pour mixture into prepared crust. Bake at 325 degrees for 80-90 minutes or until almost set. Sides should be set with a slight rippling effect at the center of the cake (the cake will completely set as it cools and is refrigerated).

7. Remove from oven and place on a cooling rack. After 30-60 minutes you can remove the springform; you may need to run a knife around the edge of the cheesecake. After cooled, place cheesecake in the refrigerator for at least 6 hours or overnight before serving.



Vanilla Bean Cheesecake

This recipe is from Tammy's Recipes.

Orange Vanilla Dream Cheesecake

A creamy cheesecake with orange and vanilla swirls, full of flavor!

Yield:

16 servings

Ingredients:

Crust Ingredients:

1 1/4 cups graham cracker crumbs

3 tablespoons sugar

4 tablespoons butter

Filling Ingredients:

3 packages (24 ounces) cream cheese, softened

1 1/4 cups sugar

2 tablespoons corn starch

4 eggs

8 ounces sour cream

1 tablespoon vanilla

2 egg yolks

1 tablespoon orange extract

1 tablespoon orange zest

3 drops red food coloring

12 drops yellow food coloring

Instructions:

1. To prepare crust, combine graham cracker crumbs and sugar in a bowl. Melt butter and stir thoroughly into crumb mixture.

2. Lightly grease a 9-inch springform pan with butter. Press crumbs

into bottom of the springform pan, working them up the sides

if desired

(the bottom of a 1-cup measuring cup works well for this).

3. Bake crust at 325 degrees for 8-10 minutes. Cool completely.*

4. Begin making the cheesecake filling by placing softened cream

cheese into a large bowl. Mix sugar and corn starch in a bowl and then

add to cream cheese; stir until smooth. (You can also use an electric

mixer on the lowest speed, but doing so will add extra air into the

cheesecake and increase the chance of cracking during baking.)

5. Crack 4 eggs into a bowl; add eggs one at a time to the filling

mixture and stir, scraping down the sides after adding each egg.

6. Mix in sour cream.

7. Place two cups of cream cheese mixture into a second bowl.

8. In the original bowl, stir in vanilla and set aside.**

9. In the second bowl, add 2 egg yolks, orange extract, orange zest, and the food colorings, and stir.

10. Using a 1-cup measure, pour mixtures into the center of the

springform pan by alternating white and orange filling. (To create a

“perfect” swirl, pour batter directly into the middle of the pan. Each

additional pouring will form a new circle inside the last.)

11. If desired: When finished pouring fillings into the pan, very

slightly swirl the top of the cake with a knife to achieve a gentle marbling effect.

12. Place into preheated oven (325 degrees) and bake for 80-90 minutes or until almost set. Sides should be set with a slight rippling effect at the center of the cake (the cake will completely set as it cools and is refrigerated).

13. Remove from oven and place on a cooling rack. After about 30-60 minutes you can remove the outside of the springform; you may need to run a knife around the edge of the cheese cake to loosen the sides before removing the springform.

14. After cooled, place uncovered cheesecake in the refrigerator for 6 hours or overnight before serving. Slice into 12-16 slices.



Orange Vanilla Dream Cheesecake

This recipe is from Tammy's Recipes.

Pumpkin Cheesecake

A creamy spicy pumpkin cheesecake with graham cracker crust

Yield:

12-16 servings

Ingredients:

Crust Ingredients:

1 1/2 cups graham cracker crumbs

3 tablespoons sugar

5 tablespoons melted butter

1/16 teaspoon ginger

1/16 teaspoon cloves

1/4 teaspoon nutmeg

Filling Ingredients:

1 cup canned/pureed/mashed pumpkin

1/2 cup heavy whipping cream

2 teaspoons vanilla extract

1 teaspoon ground cinnamon

1/2 teaspoon ground ginger

1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg

1/8 teaspoon ground cloves

1/4 teaspoon salt

20 ounces cream cheese, softened

1/2 cup sugar

1/2 cup packed light brown sugar

1 tablespoon cornstarch (sift if there are lumps!)

4 large eggs, at room temperature

Whipped cream, for serving (optional)

Instructions:

1.

Make cheesecake crust by combining crust ingredients and mixing well.

Press into the bottom of a greased 9-inch springform pan. Bake at 325

degrees for 15 minutes. Cool on wire rack.

2. In a bowl, whisk together pumpkin, whipping cream, vanilla, cinnamon, ginger, nutmeg, cloves, and salt. Set aside.

3. In a large bowl, stir the softened cream cheese until smooth. Add

the sugars and stir until smooth. Mix in the pumpkin mixture, then add

the cornstarch and mix until just blended. Add the eggs, one at a time,

mixing until just combined. (Stir by hand! Using an electric mixture

will incorporate air into the batter, causing the cheesecake to rise and

crack during baking!)

4. Wrap the outside of the springform pan tightly with 2-3 layers of aluminum foil.

5. Pour the filling into the cooled crust. Set the still-wrapped

springform pan in a large roasting pan. Carefully pour enough boiling

water into the large pan to come up 1 inch on the sides of the springform pan.

6. Bake at 325 degrees for 70 to 80 minutes or until the center is almost set in the middle.

7. Remove cheesecake from water bath and place on a cooling rack.

Carefully remove the foil and run a thin knife around the edge of the

cake. This will loosen the cake and help prevent the top from cracking.

When cheesecake has cooled slightly, remove the sides of the springform

pan. Allow to cool completely at room temperature.

8. Refrigerate cheesecake for at least 4 hours before serving. Cut into 12-16 slices and serve with whipped cream if desired!



Pumpkin Cheesecake

This recipe is from Tammy's Recipes.

Chocolate Caramel Almond Cheesecake

A
creamy dense chocolate cheesecake on a chocolate graham cracker crust,
drizzled with chocolate and caramel and sprinkled with almonds
Yield:

12-16 servings

Ingredients:

Crust ingredients:

1 1/2 cups chocolate graham cracker crumbs

3 tablespoons sugar

5 tablespoons butter, melted

Filling ingredients:

20 ounces cream cheese, softened

1 cup sugar

1 tablespoon cornstarch mixed with 1 tablespoon sugar (to remove lumps)

1 tablespoon vanilla extract

4 large eggs, at room temperature

1/2 cup heavy whipping cream

12 ounces dark chocolate chips (60% cacao)

Topping ingredients:

1/2 cup (3 ounces) semi-sweet chocolate chips

2 tablespoons butter

Caramel*

Sliced almonds

Instructions:

1.

Make crust by combining crust ingredients and pressing into the bottom

of a greased 9-inch springform pan. Bake in a pre-heated 325 degree oven

for 8-10 minutes. Set pan on a wire rack to cool while you make the

cheesecake batter.

2. In a large mixing bowl, gently stir the softened cream cheese with

the sugar and cornstarch/sugar mixture until smooth. Add vanilla and stir.

3. Add eggs, one at a time, stirring to combine, but being gentle enough to not incorporate any extra air/bubbles into the batter.

4. In a heavy sauce pan over low heat, melt the chocolate chips with the whipping cream. When no lumps remain, remove from heat. Allow to cool slightly (but not completely – or the chocolate will get too thick to mix!) and then stir the chocolate into the cream cheese mixture, making a dark chocolate batter.

5. Place two layers of heavy duty aluminum foil on a flat surface, and place the cooled 9-inch springform pan (with crust) on the foil.

Wrap the foil snugly around the pan to make it water-proof.**

6. Pour the chocolate batter over the crust, smoothing with a spatula. Place the foil-wrapped pan in a large roasting pan, and pour boiling water into the roasting pan, to come about 1 1/2 inches up the sides of the springform pan.

7. Pre-heat the oven to 325 degrees. Place roasting pan in the middle of the oven and bake for 70-90 minutes, or until cheesecake is almost completely set (only the center will still be slightly wobbly).***

8. Remove roasting pan from the oven, and carefully take the springform pan out of the water bath and place it on a wire rack to cool. Gently remove the foil after setting cheesecake on rack.

9. Run a thin knife around the edges of the cheesecake, to allow it to separate from the sides of the springform. (This helps prevent cracks during cooling.) When cheesecake has cooled slightly (maybe for 20 minutes), carefully remove the outside of the springform pan. Allow cheesecake to completely cool.

10. Prepare the toppings by warming the chocolate chips and butter in a saucepan, until chocolate is melted. (Stir to remove lumps.) Allow chocolate to cool slightly. When chocolate is still warm but not hot, put it into a small plastic bag. Snip off a (small) corner of the bag to allow you to squeeze out the chocolate.

11. In a separate pan or bowl, warm the caramel enough to be able to drizzle it. Drizzle caramel over the cheesecake. Sprinkle sliced almonds on top of the caramel, and then drizzle the chocolate (from the baggie) over the almonds and caramel.

12. Refrigerate at least 4 hours before serving.



Chocolate Caramel Almond Cheesecake
This recipe is from Tammy's Recipes.

No-Bake Cherry Cheesecake

A deliciously cool summer dessert combining graham cracker crust, a no-bake cheesecake filling, and homemade cherry pie filling on top!

Yield:

24 servings

Ingredients:

Crust ingredients:

2 1/2 cups graham cracker crumbs

6 tablespoons sugar

2/3 cup butter, melted

Cheesecake filling ingredients:

16 ounces cream cheese, at room temperature
2 teaspoons vanilla
2 cups powdered sugar
3 cups whipped cream*

Cherry pie filling:

I make cherry pie filling using this homemade cherry pie filling recipe (requires 3 cups of pitted cherries). If you don't have fresh cherries, you can use a large can of pre-made cherry pie filling instead.

Instructions:

1.
Combine crust ingredients in a bowl and stir until well-mixed. I like to use a potato masher to crush the graham crackers to make crumbs. □
2. Spread the graham cracker mixture in a glass 9×13-inch casserole dish. Use a metal spatula or other flat utensil (the bottom of a measuring cup works also) to press the crust firmly into the dish. Cover and refrigerate while you prepare the filling.
3. To make the cheesecake filling, beat cream cheese, vanilla, and powdered sugar on high until mixed. Add whipped cream and continue to beat on high until light and fluffy, about 2 minutes.
4. Spoon the cheesecake filling over the graham cracker crust. When all of the filling has been dabbed on, use a plastic spatula to spread it evenly.

5. Refrigerate the cheesecake while you make the cherry topping.

6. Spread cooled cherry pie filling over the cheesecake. Or, for an even more attractive presentation, spoon the cherry pie filling on each piece as you serve it! Store in the refrigerator.



No-Bake Cherry Cheesecake

This recipe is from Tammy's Recipes.

Easy Walnut Cheesecake Squares

Squares of buttery walnut crust with a thin layer of creamy vanilla cheesecake, sprinkled with a nutty crumb topping and baked

Yield:

24 squares

Ingredients:

Crust ingredients:

2/3 cup brown sugar
2 cups flour*
1 cup finely chopped walnuts**
2/3 cup butter, melted

Filling ingredients:

16 ounces cream cheese, softened
1/2 cup sugar
2 eggs
2 tablespoons lemon juice
1 tablespoon vanilla extract
2 tablespoons milk

Instructions:

1.
Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In a medium mixing bowl, mix brown sugar, flour and nuts together. Add melted butter and stir or mix with clean hands until light and crumbly.
2. Set aside 1 1/2 cups to be used as topping. Press the remainder firmly into an 9×13-inch baking pan. (I use the back of a metal pancake turner to press down.) Bake for 12 minutes.
3. While crust is baking, in another bowl mix cream cheese and sugar with electric mixer on low until smooth. Add remaining ingredients and stir gently until mixed.
4. Pour batter into the baking dish over the prepared baked crust and sprinkle the 1 1/2 cups reserved crumbs on top. Bake for 20-25

minutes

at 350 degrees. (Don't bake too long, or cheesecake will be dry and not as creamy!)

5. Cool in dish on wire rack. Cut into 24 squares and refrigerate several hours before serving.

Keep refrigerated and use within 7 days, or freeze the cheesecake squares in a Ziplock freezer bag, with waxed paper between layers to prevent sticking.



Easy Walnut Cheesecake Squares

This recipe is from Tammy's Recipes.

Slow-Baked New York Cheesecake

This

dense, creamy New York cheesecake is easy to make and turns

out

perfectly every time! No air bubbles, no excess browning – just the best cheesecake ever!

Yield:

16 servings

Ingredients:

Crust Ingredients:

1 1/4 cups graham cracker crumbs*

3 tablespoons sugar

4 tablespoons butter

Filling Ingredients:

3 pounds (48 ounces) softened cream cheese**

1 3/4 cups granulated sugar

4 whole eggs

4 egg yolks

1 tablespoon vanilla extract

1/2 cup heavy cream

Instructions:

1.

To prepare crust, mix crust ingredients in a bowl. Press mixture firmly

in the bottom of a lightly-greased 10-inch springform pan.

Bake crust

for 6-8 minutes at 325 degrees. Set aside to cool.

2. In a large mixing bowl, mix the softened cream cheese with the 1

3/4 cups sugar by hand or on LOW with an electric mixer, until well-mixed.

3. Add the eggs, a couple at a time, stirring by hand to combine.

Stir in the vanilla and then gently stir in the cream. You should have a nice smooth batter.

4. Pour batter over the prepared cooled crust. Preheat oven to 250 degrees.

If using a CheesecakeMoat, fill outer ring of CheesecakeMoat half way with room-temperature water, and place springform pan with cheesecake batter in the inner circle of the CheesecakeMoat.

If you don't have a CheesecakeMoat, I recommend using a 9×13-inch dish of water placed on the shelf below the cheesecake (with cheesecake on shelf above, NOT in the 9×13) or else a traditional water bath.

Cheesecake batter and CheesecakeMoat, ready to go in the oven

5. Bake cheesecake at 250 degrees for about 3 hours. The top of the cheesecake should feel firm to a soft touch, and be only lightly browned.

6. Remove cheesecake from oven and allow to cool in pan. Refrigerate overnight, or for at least 8 hours. Cut with dental floss or a sharp thin knife (wash knife between each cut). Serve plain, or with your favorite cheesecake topping (strawberries, cherries, whipped cream, lemon glaze, etc.).



Slow-Baked New York Cheesecake

This recipe is from Tammy's Recipes.