The Best Classic Pumpkin Cheesecake

Prep: 20 minutes . Cook: 1 hour 10 minutes

A silky pumpkin cheesecake on a warmly spiced gingersnap crust, crowned with airy whipped cream and a sprinkle of cookie crunch for a true taste of autumn in every bite.

Ingredients

- 2 1/2 cups (315 grams) gingersnap cookie crumbs
- 8 tablespoons (113 grams) butter (melted)
- 3 (8-ounce) packages cream cheese (softened)
- 3/4 cup brown sugar (packed)
- 1/2 cup white sugar
- 5 large eggs
- 15 ounces pure pumpkin puree
- 1/2 cup sour cream (full fat)
- 1/4 cup all purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons pumpkin pie spice
- 2 teaspoons pure vanilla extract
- 1 1/4 cups heavy cream
- 2 tablespoons white sugar (for whipped cream topping)
- to taste gingersnap cookies (crushed, for topping (optional))

Instructions

- 1. Mix the gingersnap cookie crumbs and melted butter in a medium bowl until well combined.
- 2. Press about 2/3 of the crumb mixture firmly into the bottom of a 9-inch springform pan and the remaining 1/3 up the sides; use a flat-bottomed glass or measuring cup to compact. Chill for at least 30 minutes.
- 3. Preheat the oven to 350°F (175°C).
- 4. In a stand mixer or large bowl, beat the softened cream cheese until smooth. Add the brown sugar and white sugar; mix until well combined.
- 5. Beat in the eggs, pumpkin puree, sour cream, flour, pumpkin pie spice, and vanilla until fully combined. Scrape down the bowl and mix again.
- 6. Pour the batter over the chilled crust and gently tap the pan on the counter to release air bubbles.
- 7. Place a casserole dish filled with hot water on the lower oven rack to create steam. Set the cheesecake on the upper rack and bake for about 1 hour and 5 minutes, or until the edges are set and the center jiggles slightly like Jell-O.
- 8. Turn off the oven, crack the oven door, and let the cheesecake cool inside for 1 hour.

- 9. Refrigerate the cheesecake for at least 6 hours or overnight until fully set.
- 10. Whip the heavy cream to stiff peaks, then add the sugar and mix briefly to combine.
- 11. Spread the whipped cream over the cooled cheesecake, sprinkle with crushed gingersnap cookies, slice, and serve.

Tags: Dessert, Cheesecake, Pumpkin, Fall Baking, Thanksgiving, Baking

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