

## Banana Fruit 'N Nut Whole Grain Bars





Makes 24 Bars

20 minutes

Banana Fruit 'N Nut Whole Grain Bars is a versatile make ahead recipe. These fruit and nut bars make for a great snack or sweet treat.

## **Ingredients**

- 1 1/4 cups wheat flour
- 2 tsp pumpkin pie spice
- 1/2 tsp baking soda
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 2/3 cup packed brown sugar
- 1/2 cup light butter
- 1 large egg
- 1 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> cups mashed ripe bananas (about 3 small bananas)
- 1 ½ cups Quaker® Oats (quick or old fashioned, uncooked)
- 2/3 cup chopped pitted dates or golden raisins
- 2/3 cup chopped toasted walnuts

## **Cooking Instructions**

- 1. Heat oven to 350°F.
- 2. Lightly spray 13 x 9 x 2-inch metal baking pan with nonstick cooking spray.
- 3. Stir together flour, pumpkin pie spice, baking soda and salt in medium bowl; mix well.
- 4. Set aside.
- 5. In large bowl, beat light butter and brown sugar with electric mixer until well blended.
- 6. Add egg and bananas; mix well. (Mixture will look curdled)
- 7. Add flour mixture; beat on low just until well blended.
- 8. Stir in oats, dates and walnuts.
- 9. Spread evenly in prepared pan.

- 10. Bake 20 to 25 minutes, until edges are golden brown and wooden pick inserted in center comes out with a few moist crumbs clinging to it.
- 11. Cool completely in pan on wire rack.
- 12. Cut into bars.
- 13. Store tightly covered at room temperature up to 2 days or place in airtight container and freeze up to 3 months.
- 14. Defrost uncovered at room temperature.