

Since this cheesecake needs to chill for several hours, it's easiest to bake it a day ahead of time.

Coconut Cheesecake

- 1 pound cream cheese, at room temperature
- 1/4 cup fine-grated coconut
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 2/3 cup heavy cream
- 4 egg yolks
- 1 tablespoon cognac
- 2 tablespoons flour
- 4 egg whites
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 9-inch pastry or coconut shell

Preheat oven to 325°.

Beat the cream cheese until smooth, and then beat in 1/2 cup sugar gradually. Add 1 egg yolk at a time, beating after each addition. Stir in the flour, salt and coconut, then the cream and cognac.

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Beat the egg whites until stiff; gradually beat in the remaining 1/4 cup sugar. Fold into the cheese mixture. Pour into the lined pie plate. Bake 45 minutes or until a knife inserted in the center comes out clean. Open the door and let the cake cool in the oven for 1 hour. Remove from oven to finish cooling.



Place spring form pan on a shallow pan, like a pizza pan, or cover bottom and up one inch around the sides with aluminum foil to avoid leaks in the oven. Place a shallow pan of water in rack below cheesecake to keep oven moist.

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