Banana Nut Pie Crust



TIPS:

- I. More Than Just a Doughy Pie Filling Container: Unlike a traditional pie crust made with flour, sugar, water, butter and oil, the banana, nut and spice ingredients give this crust a flavor and texture that both stand on their own and contribute full-on flavor to your favorite pie filling.
- 2. **Vegan Recipe:** This recipe qualifies as a vegan recipe because the combination of oil and butter

found in traditional pie crust recipes is substituted here with banana.

Preparation Time: 15-20 minutes

Ingredients

(for one 10-inch diameter pie)

Cooking Spray (not pictured below)

- **2 Cups Ground Nuts** (I used a combination of ground almonds and chopped pecans)
- 2 Ripe Bananas
- 1 1/2 Tablespoons Vanilla Extract
- 1/2 Teaspoon Salt

Shake (about 1 1/2 teaspoons) Ground

Cinnamon

Optional Ingredients

Shake (about 1 teaspoon) Pumpkin Pie Spice 1 Tablespoon Pumpkin or Apple Butter (can be substituted with sugar)

About I Tablespoon Cacao Powder Handful Raisins (or any other dried fruit)

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Equipment

Measuring Cup 9-10 Inch Pie Pan Mixing Bowl (large enough to contain all the ingredients and allow for mixing) Tablespoon

Teaspoon (optional - you can measure by hand or by estimating as shown in this recipe) Pot Holder or Folded Dish Towel



1. Peel and use a fork to mash 2 **ripe bananas** in a bowl until what you have looks about as shown in the third picture below.







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2. Add I I/2 tablespoons vanilla extract, I/2 teaspoon salt (or about as much as shown in the palm of my hand below) and a good shake (or about I I/2 teaspoons) ground cinnamon.



3. Add your choice or a combination of the following optional ingredients: a shake (about teaspoon) pumpkin pie spice, I tablespoon pumpkin or apple butter (or sugar), a light shot of hazelnut syrup (or any other nut

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flavored syrup),...







...a good shake (about 1 tablespoon) cacao powder and/or a handful of raisins (or any other dried fruit).





4. Measure 2 cups ground nuts (I'm using a

combination 1 1/2 cups ground almonds and 1/2 cup chopped pecans, but any ground nuts will work)...







...and pour them in the mixing bowl.



5. Stir with a tablespoon until **all the ingredients** are well mixed together as shown in the picture below on the right.





6. To make pressing the **dough** onto the pie pan as easy as possible, refrigerate the dough for a least an hour. If you, don't have an hour (I usually don't), skip to step 7.



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7. Scoop the **dough** out of the bowl with your hands, and form the **dough** into a ball.





8. Spray a pie pan with a **light, even coat of cooking spray**.



9. Put the **dough ball** in the middle of the pie

dish and press it into place as shown in the 2 pictures below until what you have looks about like...





...this.



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