

Susan Samueli
Integrative Health Institute



# From the Kitchen of Executive Chef Jessica VanRoo

## **Pumpkin Spiced Mummy Bars**

Makes 12 bars

264 calories per serving

#### Description from Living Well UCI Health Blog: www.ucihealth.org/blog

These tasty breakfast bars build on the benefits of pumpkin with oats and chia seeds, both of which are loaded with fiber, vitamins, essential minerals, antioxidants and all-important protein.

Oats are also known to lower levels of blood sugar and bad cholesterol. And because they absorb water, they are digested more slowly, increasing a sense of fullness and improving bowel health.

Chia seeds — which are native to Mexico and Guatemala and were a staple of ancient Mayan and Aztec diets — are loaded with heart-healthy omega-3 fatty acids and contain all nine amino acids, making them an important plant-based protein.

Total cost: \$8.91 /\$.74 per serving

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## **Pumpkin Spiced Mummy Bars**

#### **Ingredients**

- 1 cup milk (any kind)
- ½ cup pumpkin purée
- ½ cup pure maple syrup
- ¼ cup coconut oil, melted
- 1 egg
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 cup oat flour, minus 1 teaspoon
- 1½ cups old-fashioned oats
- 2 tablespoons chia seeds
- 1 teaspoon pumpkin pie spice
- ½ teaspoon baking powder

- ¼ teaspoon baking soda
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- 1/3 cup pecan halves, roughly chopped
- 1 cup white chocolate, melted
- 24 chocolate chips for "mummy" eyes (Edible candy eyes found at local home goods or craft stores also work.)



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### **Pumpkin Spiced Mummy Bars**

#### Instructions

- 1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees and coat 8-inch x 8-inch square baking pan with nonstick spray or butter. (You may use a 9-inch round pan, but making mummies will be a little harder!)
- 2. In a large bowl, combine milk, pumpkin, syrup, coconut oil, egg and vanilla. Whisk well to mix.
- 3. In another bowl, blend oat flour, oats, chia seeds, spices, baking powder, baking soda and salt. Then combine with wet ingredients.
- 4. Mix just until combined. Do not overmix.
- 5. Fold in pecans, then pour mixture into prepared pan.
- 6. Bake 35-40 minutes, checking frequently after 25 minutes.
- 7. If the edges are browning but the middle is still wet, cover pan with foil to continue baking.
- 8. When the middle has set, remove from oven.
- 9. Cut into 12 bars when cool.
- 10. While the batter is baking, place white chocolate in microwave-safe dish.
- 11. Set microwave to 50% power and heat chocolate for 30 seconds.
- 12. Stir, then heat for another 30 seconds at 50% power. Repeat until chocolate is fully melted.
- 13. Put melted chocolate in a piping bag and spread in lines across the individual bars to create the "mummy" effect.
- 14. Gently press two chocolate chips or candy eyes into the white chocolate at the top of each bar.

Place on a decorative Halloween or Día de los Muertos platter and serve!

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