

Our Favorite Overnight Oats Recipe

100 Days Of Real Food

Our favorite overnight oats recipe 100 days of real food is a simple, nutritious, and versatile breakfast that has become a staple in many households. Whether you're a busy professional, a parent managing morning chaos, or someone looking to enjoy a healthy start to your day, this recipe is perfect for prepping ahead and savoring a wholesome meal. With countless variations and the ability to customize flavors and toppings, overnight oats offer an easy way to incorporate more whole foods into your diet. In this comprehensive guide, we'll walk you through everything you need to know about making the best overnight oats inspired by 100 Days of Real Food, including ingredients, preparation tips, flavor ideas, and health benefits.

Understanding the Basics of Overnight Oats

What Are Overnight Oats?

Overnight oats are a no-cook method of preparing oats by soaking them in liquid overnight. This process softens the oats and creates a creamy, delicious breakfast that's ready to eat in the morning. It's an alternative to traditional hot oatmeal, offering a cold, ready-to-eat option that is both convenient and nutritious.

Why Choose Overnight Oats?

Some of the key benefits include:

1. Time-saving: Prepare them the night before and grab them in the morning.
2. Customizable: Add your favorite flavors, fruits, nuts, and seeds.
3. Healthier options: Use whole, unprocessed ingredients for a nutrient-dense meal.
4. Digestive health: Soaking oats can improve digestibility and reduce phytic acid.

Our Favorite Overnight Oats Recipe from 100 Days of Real Food

Ingredients

To make this wholesome overnight oats recipe, gather the following simple ingredients:

1. 1 cup old-fashioned rolled oats
2. 1 cup milk (dairy or plant-based options like almond, coconut, or oat milk)
3. 1/2 cup plain Greek yogurt or coconut yogurt for dairy-free option
4. 1-2 tablespoons natural sweetener (honey, maple syrup, or coconut nectar)

5. 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
6. A pinch of salt

Optional Add-ins and Toppings

Enhance your overnight oats with flavor and nutrition:

1. Chia seeds or flaxseeds for omega-3s and fiber
2. Fresh or frozen berries (strawberries, blueberries, raspberries)
3. Sliced bananas, apples, or pears
4. Crunchy nuts (almonds, walnuts, pecans)
5. Seeds (pumpkin, sunflower, hemp)
6. Spices like cinnamon, nutmeg, or cardamom
7. Dark chocolate chips or cacao nibs for a decadent touch

Step-by-Step Preparation Guide

1. Mixing the Base

In a medium-sized jar or bowl, combine:

1. Old-fashioned rolled oats
2. Milk
3. Yogurt
4. Sweetener
5. Vanilla extract
6. A pinch of salt

Stir well to ensure all ingredients are evenly combined.

2. Adding Optional Ingredients

This is the stage to incorporate any optional add-ins like:

1. Chia or flax seeds
2. Spices such as cinnamon or nutmeg
3. Small pieces of fruit (if adding fresh fruit, consider adding it in the morning for freshness)

3. Refrigeration

Cover the jar or bowl with a lid or plastic wrap and refrigerate overnight, ideally for at least 6 hours but up to 24 hours for optimal texture.

4. Serving and Topping

In the morning:

1. Give the oats a good stir to combine everything.

2. Adjust the consistency with a splash of milk if needed.
3. Top with your favorite fresh fruit, nuts, seeds, or a drizzle of honey or syrup.

Enjoy your nutritious, ready-to-eat breakfast!

Flavor Variations and Customizations

Fruity Overnight Oats

- Add chopped fresh fruits like strawberries, blueberries, or bananas before refrigerating. - Mix in fruit preserves or compote for added sweetness.

Chocolate Peanut Butter

- Swirl in natural peanut or almond butter before serving. - Add cacao powder or chocolate chips for a rich, indulgent flavor.

Spiced Autumn

- Incorporate cinnamon, nutmeg, and a splash of maple syrup. - Top with toasted pecans and sliced apples in the morning.

Berry Lemonade

- Mix in fresh lemon zest and juice. - Add a handful of mixed berries for a refreshing twist.

Health Benefits of Our Favorite Overnight Oats Recipe

Nutrient-Dense and Filling

This recipe combines complex carbohydrates, healthy fats, and protein, providing sustained energy and keeping you full longer.

Rich in Fiber

Oats and seeds add dietary fiber, supporting digestion and heart health.

Supports Digestive Health

Soaking oats reduces phytic acid, enhancing mineral absorption and making digestion easier.

Customizable for Dietary Needs

Gluten-free oats are available for those sensitive to gluten. Plant-based milk and yogurt cater to vegan or dairy-free diets.

Antioxidants and Phytochemicals

Fruits and seeds add antioxidants that combat oxidative stress and support overall health.

Tips for Making Perfect Overnight Oats

1. **Use the right oats:** Old-fashioned rolled oats work best; steel-cut oats are too hard and require longer soaking.
2. **Adjust liquid ratios:** If you prefer creamier oats, add a bit more milk; for thicker oats, reduce liquid slightly.
3. **Layer flavors:** Incorporate spices and extracts in the base for a flavor-packed breakfast.
4. **Prepare in advance:** Make multiple jars at once for the week ahead, saving time each morning.
5. **Experiment:** Don't hesitate to try different fruits, nuts, and flavor combinations to keep breakfast exciting.

Conclusion

Our favorite overnight oats recipe from 100 Days of Real Food is a perfect example of how simple ingredients can create a delicious, healthy, and satisfying breakfast. With endless variations and easy preparation, it encourages a wholesome start to your day while fitting seamlessly into busy lifestyles. By customizing the ingredients and toppings, you can enjoy a different flavor every morning, making breakfast both nutritious and enjoyable. Start preparing overnight oats tonight and experience the convenience and health benefits of this timeless, versatile meal. Keywords: overnight oats, 100 days of real food, healthy breakfast, easy overnight oats recipe, nutritious morning meal, customizable oats, gluten-free oats, plant-based breakfast, quick healthy breakfast, meal prep breakfast

Our Favorite Overnight Oats Recipe 100 Days of Real Food

In the world of healthy breakfasts, few options combine convenience, nutrition, and versatility as seamlessly as overnight oats. Over the course of 100 days, countless mornings have been transformed by this simple yet nourishing meal. Among the myriad recipes available, one stands out: the beloved overnight oats recipe from 100 Days of Real Food. Celebrated for its wholesome ingredients, customizable nature, and ease of preparation, this recipe has become a staple in many households seeking a nutritious start to their day. In this article, we delve into the details of this favorite overnight oats recipe, exploring its origins, ingredients, preparation techniques, variations, and the myriad benefits it offers.

The Origins of 100 Days of Real Food and Its Oats Philosophy

Before diving into the recipe itself, it's worth understanding the philosophy behind 100 Days of Real Food. Founded by Lisa Leake, this platform champions the idea of simplifying nutrition by focusing on real, minimally processed foods. The goal is to make wholesome eating accessible and sustainable, emphasizing whole ingredients over processed snacks and quick fixes. Overnight oats fit perfectly into this philosophy—they are made with real, simple ingredients,

free from artificial additives, and can be tailored to individual tastes.

The concept of overnight oats originated as a practical solution for busy mornings, but it quickly gained popularity for its health benefits. The combination of oats, milk, and toppings offers a hearty, balanced meal that provides sustained energy and essential nutrients. The 100 Days of Real Food approach elevates this basic idea by encouraging the use of organic, unrefined, and nutrient-dense ingredients, ensuring that each spoonful contributes to overall well-being.

Why Choose Overnight Oats? Benefits and Nutritional Advantages

Convenience and Time-Saving: Preparing overnight oats the night before means you wake up to a ready-to-eat breakfast, saving precious morning minutes. It's especially beneficial for busy families, professionals, and anyone looking to streamline their morning routine.

Nutritional Balance: Oats are rich in dietary fiber, particularly beta-glucan, which promotes heart health and helps regulate blood sugar levels. When combined with protein sources like Greek yogurt or nuts, and topped with fruits, overnight oats deliver a balanced meal that sustains energy throughout the morning.

Customizability: This recipe serves as a blank canvas. You can adapt it to suit your dietary preferences—vegan, dairy-free, low-sugar, or high-protein—by swapping ingredients and toppings.

Cost-Effectiveness: Oats are an affordable staple, and making your own overnight oats is often cheaper than buying pre-packaged options. Bulk buying oats and seasonal fruits further cuts costs.

Supporting Digestive Health: The high fiber content aids digestion and promotes gut health. Plus, adding probiotics via yogurt or fermented ingredients can enhance gut flora.

The Classic 100 Days of Real Food Overnight Oats Recipe: Ingredients and Ratios

The classic overnight oats recipe from 100 Days of Real Food emphasizes simplicity and nutrient density. Here's a breakdown of the core ingredients:

1. **Old-Fashioned Rolled Oats:** $\frac{1}{2}$ cup per serving. Use organic or steel-cut oats if preferred, but rolled oats are easiest to soak.
2. **Milk:** $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ cup. Choices include dairy (whole, 2%, or skim), plant-based options like almond, cashew, or oat milk.
3. **Greek Yogurt:** $\frac{1}{4}$ cup. For added creaminess and protein. Vegan substitutions include coconut yogurt.
4. **Sweetener (Optional):** A teaspoon of honey, maple syrup, or a splash of vanilla extract for flavor.
5. **Toppings:** Fresh fruits (berries, sliced bananas, chopped apples), nuts, seeds, or nut butters.

The ratio of oats to liquid typically ranges from 1:1.5 to 1:2, depending on desired consistency. The goal is a creamy, spoonable texture without being too runny or too thick.

Step-by-Step Preparation: Making the Perfect Overnight Oats

1. **Gather Your Ingredients and Containers:** Use a jar, glass container, or airtight bowl. Mason

jars are popular for their convenience and portability.

1. Combine the Dry Ingredients: Place the oats in the container. If you're adding spices like cinnamon or chia seeds, include them now.
1. Add the Liquids: Pour in the milk and yogurt. Stir gently to combine, ensuring oats are fully submerged to prevent clumping.
1. Sweeten and Flavor: Incorporate honey, maple syrup, vanilla, or spices as desired. Mix thoroughly.
1. Refrigerate Overnight: Cover the container with a lid or plastic wrap. Let it sit in the fridge for at least 4 hours, preferably overnight (8 hours or more) for optimal soaking.
1. Add Toppings and Serve: In the morning, stir the oats well. Add fresh fruits, nuts, seeds, or additional sweeteners if desired. Enjoy directly from the jar or transfer to a bowl.

Mastering Variations: Customizing Your Overnight Oats

While the classic recipe is delicious, experimentation leads to delightful discoveries. Here are some popular variations inspired by 100 Days of Real Food principles:

Vegan & Dairy-Free Version

1. Base: Use plant-based milk like almond, cashew, or oat.
2. Yogurt: Replace with coconut yogurt or omit entirely.
3. Sweetener: Use maple syrup or agave nectar.
4. Add-ins: Incorporate chia seeds for omega-3s and fiber.

High-Protein Oats

1. Add: Protein powder (choose clean, minimally processed varieties).
2. Incorporate: Cottage cheese or silken tofu for extra creaminess and protein.
3. Toppings: Nut butters or pumpkin seeds.

Fruit-Only or No Added Sweetener

1. Use naturally sweet fruits like ripe bananas or berries to flavor the oats.

Spiced & Nutty

1. Add cinnamon, nutmeg, or cardamom.
2. Top with toasted nuts or seeds for crunch.

Seasonal Variations

1. Use pumpkin puree and pumpkin spice in fall.
2. Incorporate fresh stone fruits in summer.

Tips for Perfect Overnight Oats

1. Adjust the Liquid: Depending on your preferred texture, add more or less milk.
2. Stir Before Serving: This redistributes flavors and prevents settling.
3. Sweeten Sparingly: To keep sugar intake low, focus on naturally sweet ingredients.

- 4. Use Quality Ingredients: Organic oats, fresh fruits, and minimally processed add-ins maximize nutritional value.
- 5. Batch Prep: Make multiple jars at once for the week, saving time and ensuring healthy breakfasts every day.

The Broader Impact: Why This Recipe Matters

Choosing to prepare overnight oats from 100 Days of Real Food isn't just about convenience; it's a lifestyle choice rooted in nourishing the body with real ingredients. It encourages mindful eating, reduces dependence on processed foods, and promotes sustainable habits. Moreover, the flexibility of the recipe means it can be adapted to various dietary needs, making it accessible for diverse lifestyles.

In a broader context, adopting recipes like this supports local agriculture by sourcing fresh produce, reduces packaging waste associated with store-bought breakfast options, and fosters a deeper connection to the food we consume.

Final Thoughts: Embracing Simplicity and Nutrition

The overnight oats recipe from 100 Days of Real Food exemplifies how simple ingredients can be transformed into a wholesome, delicious meal. Its enduring popularity stems from its ease of preparation, nutritional benefits, and adaptability. Whether you're a busy parent seeking quick mornings, a health-conscious individual aiming to improve your diet, or someone exploring plant-based options, this recipe offers a versatile foundation.

By embracing this nourishing breakfast, you're not only making a choice for better health but also supporting a lifestyle centered on real, minimally processed foods. As you experiment with different toppings, flavors, and textures, remember that the core principle remains the same: nourishing your body with ingredients as close to nature as possible.

Here's to many mornings of wholesome, satisfying breakfasts—one jar at a time!

Questions & Answers About our favorite overnight oats recipe 100 days of real food

No	Question	Answer
1	What makes the '100 Days of Real Food' overnight oats recipe a favorite among health enthusiasts?	Its simple, wholesome ingredients, minimal added sugars, and customizable flavors make it both nutritious and versatile, appealing to those seeking a healthy breakfast option.
2	Are the ingredients used in the '100 Days of Real Food' overnight oats suitable for a gluten-free diet?	Yes, the recipe uses gluten-free oats, and all other ingredients are naturally gluten-free, making it a safe choice for those with gluten sensitivities.
3	Can I prepare the '100 Days of Real Food' overnight oats ahead of time for meal prep?	Absolutely! They can be prepared the night before and stored in the refrigerator for up to 3 days, making them perfect for quick, grab-and-go breakfasts.

4	What are some healthy toppings to enhance the '100 Days of Real Food' overnight oats?	Fresh fruits like berries or sliced bananas, nuts, seeds, and a drizzle of honey or maple syrup are great options to add flavor and extra nutrients.
5	Is the '100 Days of Real Food' overnight oats recipe suitable for vegans?	Yes, by using plant-based milk and vegan-friendly toppings, the recipe can easily be made vegan-friendly.
6	How customizable is the '100 Days of Real Food' overnight oats recipe?	Very customizable! You can swap out different types of milk, add spices like cinnamon, or include various fruits and nuts to suit your taste preferences.
7	Does this overnight oats recipe contain added sugars, and can I reduce them?	The recipe uses minimal natural sweeteners like honey or maple syrup. You can reduce or omit sweeteners to suit your dietary needs.
8	What nutritional benefits does the '100 Days of Real Food' overnight oats offer?	It provides a good source of fiber, protein, healthy fats, and essential vitamins, supporting sustained energy and overall health.
9	Where can I find the full '100 Days of Real Food' overnight oats recipe?	You can find the full recipe on the '100 Days of Real Food' official website or their related cookbooks and blogs dedicated to healthy eating.

overnight oats, healthy breakfast, easy recipes, whole foods, meal prep, gluten-free, dairy-free, vegan breakfast, nutritious recipes, real food cooking