

Date Bars

2 cups oatmeal
1¼ cups flour
1 cup margarine
1 cup brown sugar
½ cup chopped nuts
1 teaspoon cinnamon
½ teaspoon baking soda
1 pound chopped and pitted dates
1 cup + 2 tablespoons water
¾ cup sugar

Combine all ingredients except the last three in a large mixing bowl. Beat at low speed until mixture is crumbly. Press half of mixture onto bottom of a greased 9 x 13 pan. Combine dates, water, and sugar. Cook until mixture is thick. Spread over crumb mixture. Top with remaining crumb mixture. Pat down. Bake at 350° for 45 minutes or until golden brown.