

Cindy Roy for home, about home, from home

Bacon Stuffed Jalapeño Poppers

Ingredients:

- 1 8 oz. package of cream cheese, softened at room temperature
- 6 8 jalapeños, sliced lengthwise with ribs and seeds removed (depends on size of the peppers)
- 8 slices of bacon
- 2 finely chopped green onions
- 1/2 3/4 cup of grated cheddar cheese

Instructions:

- 1. Preheat your oven to 375 degree. Line your baking sheet with foil and apply cooking spray.
- 2. Cook the bacon until crisp and then soak up the fat using a paper towel. Chop the cooked bacon into very small pieces.
- 3. Give the cream cheese a really good stir to create a smooth consistency. Add the bacon pieces, chopped green onions, and grated cheddar into the cream cheese and mix until thoroughly combined.
- 4. Cut the jalapeños in half, lengthwise. (You may want to wear gloves when handling the peppers.) Carefully remove the seeds and ribs with a spoon. Fill each jalapeño half with the cream cheese mixture.
- 5. Place the poppers on your prepared baking sheet. (They can be quite close together.) Bake for 20-25 minutes or until the filling begins to bubble. Serve hot from the oven! (or place on the BBQ)

Recipe Variations to Consider:

Kathleeen's recipe on <u>Gonna Want Seconds</u> is slightly different, but she recommends **dipping the stuffed jalapeños into bread crumbs**, so that the crumbs stick to the surface of the cream cheese. I'm sure this would give the finished popper a nice crispy texture once baked. Sounds delicious!

Another variation of this recipe is to **omit the chopped bacon from the filling mixture** and in lieu of that, wrap each stuffed poppers with a slice of raw bacon and then secure it with a wooden toothpick. Depending on size of the bacon slices, you may want to slice the bacon in half lengthwise, so that one slice will actually do 2 poppers. If you choose to do this option, make sure you have enough slices (whole or halved) to wrap all your poppers.