Chocolate Pumpkin Nut Bread or Mini Muffins

1 2/3 cups all-purpose flour

1 tbsp pumpkin pie spice

1 tsp baking soda

3/4 tsp salt

¼ tsp baking powder

1 ½ cups granulated sugar

½ cup vegetable oil

2 large eggs

1 cup canned plain pumpkin (half a one pound can)

1 cup semisweet chocolate chips

½ cup toasted chopped almonds (optional)

Heat oven to 350 for bread or 375 for muffins. Butter a 9x5x3 inch loaf pan or use mini muffin cups. Mix flour, spice, baking soda, salt and baking powder. Beat sugar, oil and eggs in a large bowl. When well blended, beat in pumpkin and 1/3 cup water. Stir in flour mixture, then chocolate chips and almonds. Scrape into prepared pan. Bake about 1 hour 10 minutes for bread/ 10-12 minutes for muffins, or until a wooden pick inserted in the center comes out clean. Cool in pan 15 minutes. Turn out onto a wire rack and cool completely.

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