

## Easy Taco Casserole with Fritos - Comfort Food in 30 Minutes

Looking for a dinner that's bold, cheesy, and guaranteed to satisfy a crowd? This



**OVEN**  
**350°F**

**TIME**  
**30 min**

**METHOD**  
**Air fryer**

**PRINT**  
**Recipe Card**

### INGREDIENTS

- 1 lb ground beef
- 1 packet taco seasoning
- 1 cup shredded mozzarella cheese
- 2/3 cup water
- ¾ can cheddar cheese soup
- ¼ cup whole milk
- Chili cheese Fritos, enough to cover the bottom of a casserole dish

### DIRECTIONS

- 1.** Brown the Beef: In a large skillet over medium heat, cook the ground beef for about 5-7 minutes, until fully browned. Drain any excess fat.
- 2.** Season It: Add the taco seasoning and 2/3 cup water to the pan. Stir and simmer on low until the water is mostly absorbed and the beef is well-coated.
- 3.** Layer the Base: In a greased baking dish, add a generous layer of Chili Cheese Fritos to cover the bottom.
- 4.** Add the Meat: Spoon the cooked taco beef mixture evenly over the chips.
- 5.** Make the Cheese Sauce: In a small saucepan, heat ¾ can of cheddar cheese soup and ¼ cup milk over low heat. Stir until smooth and warm-about 2 minutes.
- 6.** Assemble and Bake: Pour the cheese sauce evenly over the beef. Sprinkle with shredded mozzarella, then bake at 350°F (175°C) for 10-15 minutes, or until bubbly and slightly golden.
- 7.** Serve Hot: Scoop onto plates or bowls and serve immediately with sour cream, salsa, or guacamole on the side.

### SWAPS & NOTES

and Swaps Ground Beef : Swap with ground turkey or plant-based meat for a different spin.

Taco Seasoning : Use homemade taco seasoning if you want to control the spice and salt.

Cheddar Cheese Soup : Velveeta or homemade cheese sauce also works in a pinch.

Mozzarella : Blend with Monterey Jack or cheddar for more flavor.

## TIPS FOR SUCCESS

Don't overbake : Just 10-15 minutes is enough to melt the cheese and heat everything through without losing the Fritos' crunch.

Double layer : For extra cheesy indulgence, add a second layer of Fritos and meat before topping with cheese sauce.

Spice it up : Add chopped jalapeños, hot sauce, or pepper jack cheese for a fiery twist.

Make it a meal : Serve with a fresh salad, corn, or beans to round it out.

**More recipes:** [ChefManiac.com](https://chefmaniac.com)

Original recipe: <https://chefmaniac.com/easy-taco-casserole-with-fritos-comfort-food-in-30-minutes/>