Your Favorite Brownie

Ingredients	Metric	US
All-purpose flour	95 g	3/4 cup
Dutch-process cocoa	30 g	1/4 cup
Baking powder	1/2 tsp	1/2 tsp
Salt	1/2 tsp	1/2 tsp
Bittersweet chocolate	170 g	6 oz
Unsalted butter	85 g	6 tbsp
Neutral oil (such as avocado)	60 ml	1/4 cup
Granulated sugar	150 g	3/4 cup
Brown sugar	100 g	1/2 cup
Eggs (room temperature)	2 large	2 large
Vanilla extract	1 tsp	1 tsp
Espresso powder (optional)	1 tsp	1 tsp

Instructions

- 1. Preheat the oven to 175°C (350°F). Line an 8-inch (20×20 cm) square pan with parchment, leaving enough overhang to lift later.
- 2. Melt the bittersweet chocolate and butter in a heatproof bowl set over simmering water. Stir until smooth. Remove from heat and whisk in cocoa powder. Cool slightly.
- 3. In a large bowl, whisk the granulated sugar, brown sugar, eggs, and vanilla until smooth and lightly thickened.
- 4. Pour the cooled chocolate mixture into the sugar–egg mixture. Whisk until the batter looks glossy and uniform.
- 5. In another bowl, whisk together the flour, baking powder, salt, and espresso powder, if using. Fold gently into the batter until no dry streaks remain.
- 6. Spread the batter evenly in the pan. Bake 28–32 minutes, until the top is shiny and set and the center looks just slightly soft. A toothpick should come out with moist crumbs, not wet batter.
- 7. Cool brownies completely in the pan. Use the parchment to lift them out, then cut into squares with a sharp knife.

Note & Storage

- Using both butter and oil gives richness with a soft, moist texture.
- Espresso powder is optional and enhances chocolate without adding coffee taste.
- Dutch-process cocoa gives a darker color and smoother flavor; natural cocoa also works.
- Store in an airtight container at room temperature for up to 3 days.
- Freeze wrapped squares for up to 2 months; thaw at room temperature or warm briefly.