Asparagus Onion Casserole

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When you are craving something hearty and warm but not in the mood for stew, try this creamy asparagus casserole. The filling bakes up thick and cheesy, and a golden crisp topping makes for a bit of crunch in every soft bite.

Ingredients:

- 5 tablespoons butter, divided
- 1 pound asparagus, cut into 1-inch pieces
- 1 medium onion, sliced
- 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 1 cup milk
- 1 (3-ounce) package cream cheese, softened
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon black pepper
- ½ cup shredded mild Cheddar cheese
- 1 cup breadcrumbs

Directions:

- 1. Preheat oven to 350°F.
- 2. Heat 1 tablespoon butter in a large skillet over medium. Add asparagus and onion; cook until lightly crisp, 3 minutes. Transfer to an ungreased 1 ½-quart baking dish.
- 3. Add 2 tablespoons butter to the skillet and melt over medium heat. Add flour and whisk until smooth. Add milk and cook until thickened, whisking to break down clumps.
- 4. Add cream cheese and cook until melted; mix well. Add salt, pepper, and cheese and stir. Pour sauce over the asparagus and onions.
- 5. Melt the remaining 1 tablespoon butter and breadcrumbs together over medium. Pour over prepared casserole.
- 6. Bake, uncovered, 40 to 50 minutes, until lightly browned and bubbling.