Vegetallan times

FABULOUS FALL MEALS

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WHOLESOME HEARTY CONTEMPORARY THIS CRISPYANCIENT



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Susie Theodoru

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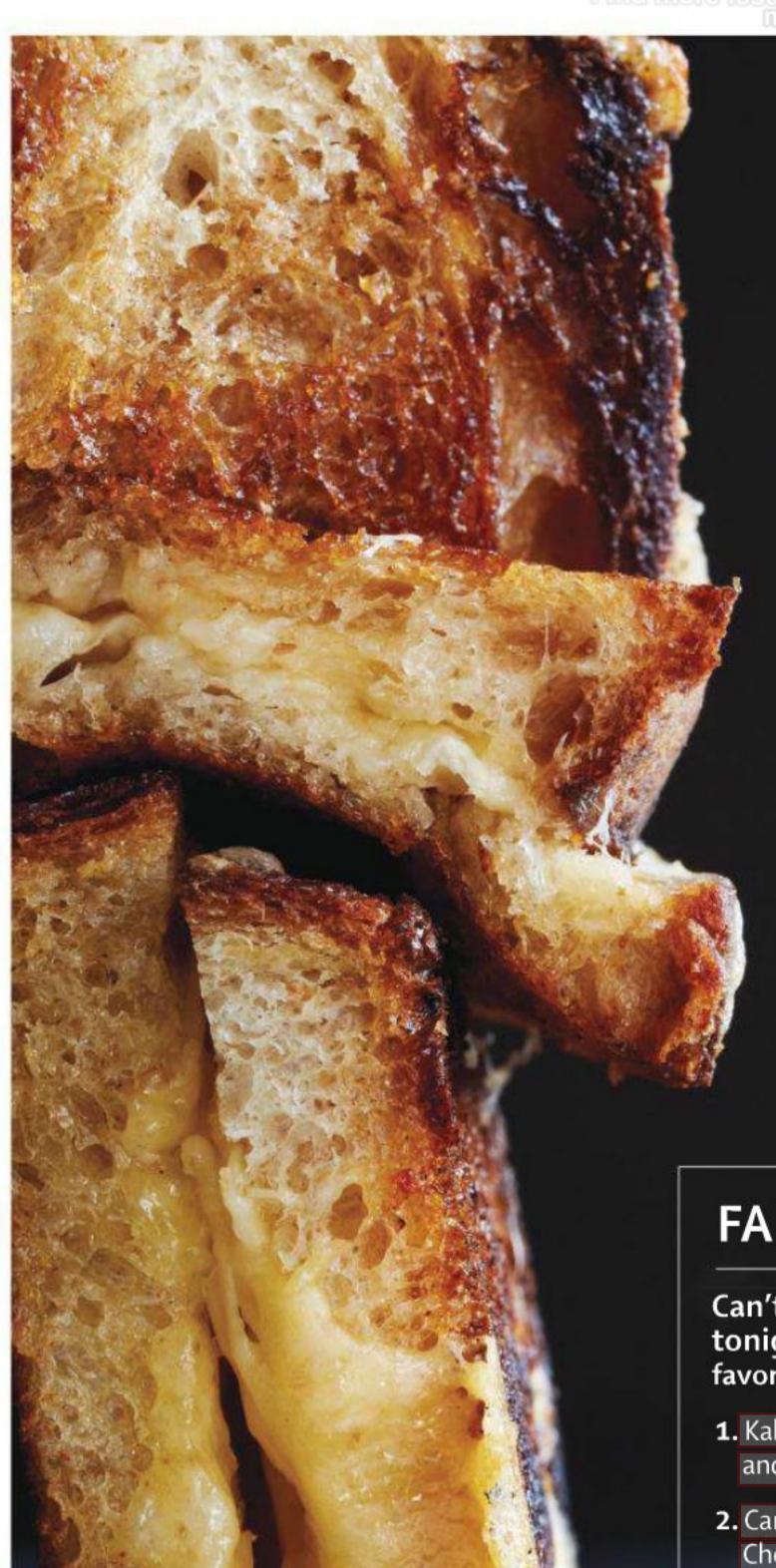
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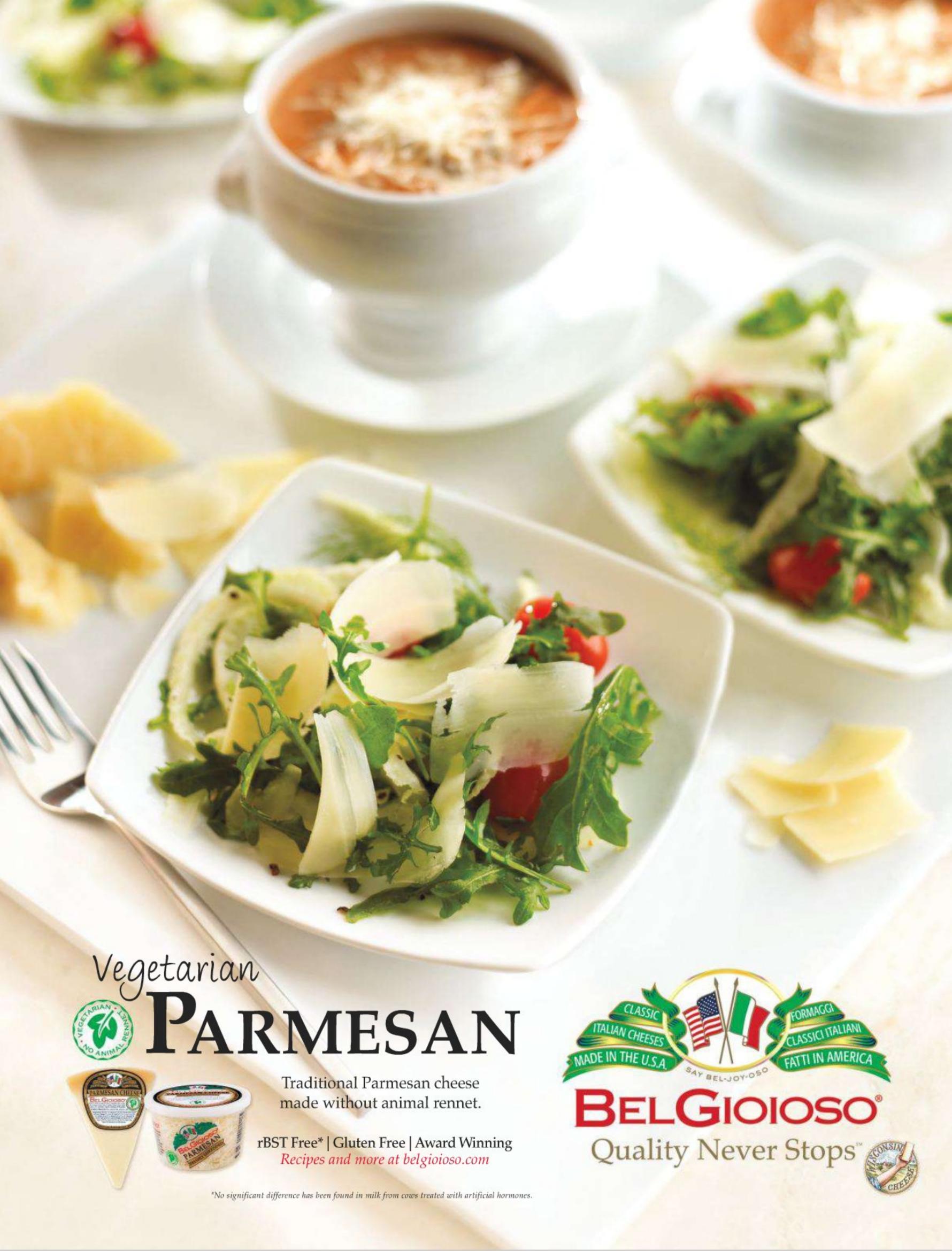
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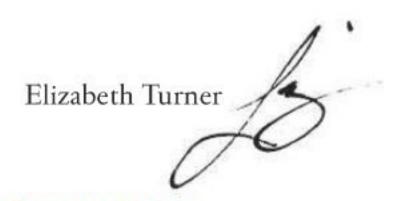
no baloney

When my brother and I were kids, my mom made a signature sandwich we couldn't resist.

"Who wants a Special Baloney Sandwich?" she'd call out on Saturday afternoons. Who was she kidding? Everyone within earshot wanted one of those sandwiches, which was basically baloney on sourdough with mustard, mayo, Jack cheese, and sliced tomato, all toasted up to crispy-melty perfection in the toaster oven.

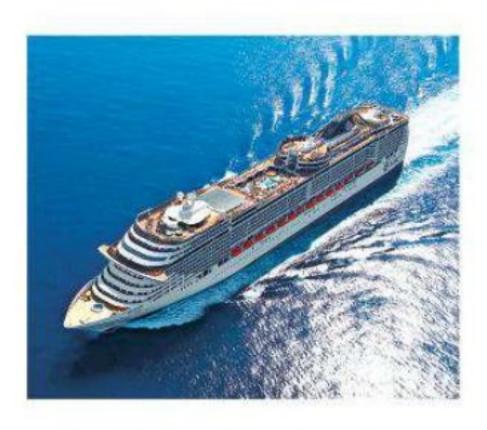
I haven't eaten baloney in decades, but a vivid Special Baloney flashback caught me by surprise when we sampled the Camembert Caprese Grilled-Cheese Sandwiches featured in this month's Technique: "Glorious Grilled Cheese" (p. 52). That irresistible combination of sourdough, melted cheese, and warm sliced tomatoes delivers all the specialness of my mom's sandwich, and the addition of fresh basil leaves is a definite improvement over processed lunch meat.

Munching away on VTs gourmet grilled-cheese creations, I realized my mom's sandwich would have been famous even without the baloney. We just didn't know it at the time.



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VT's Build a Better Breakfast Challenge » vegetariantimes.com/betterbreakfast

This seven-day program, sponsored by Bob's Red Mill, will help you build healthful breakfast habits for life and keep you looking and feeling your best. Sign up at vegetariantimes.com/betterbreakfast, and get started today by reading "Make Over Your Morning Meal" (p. 40).



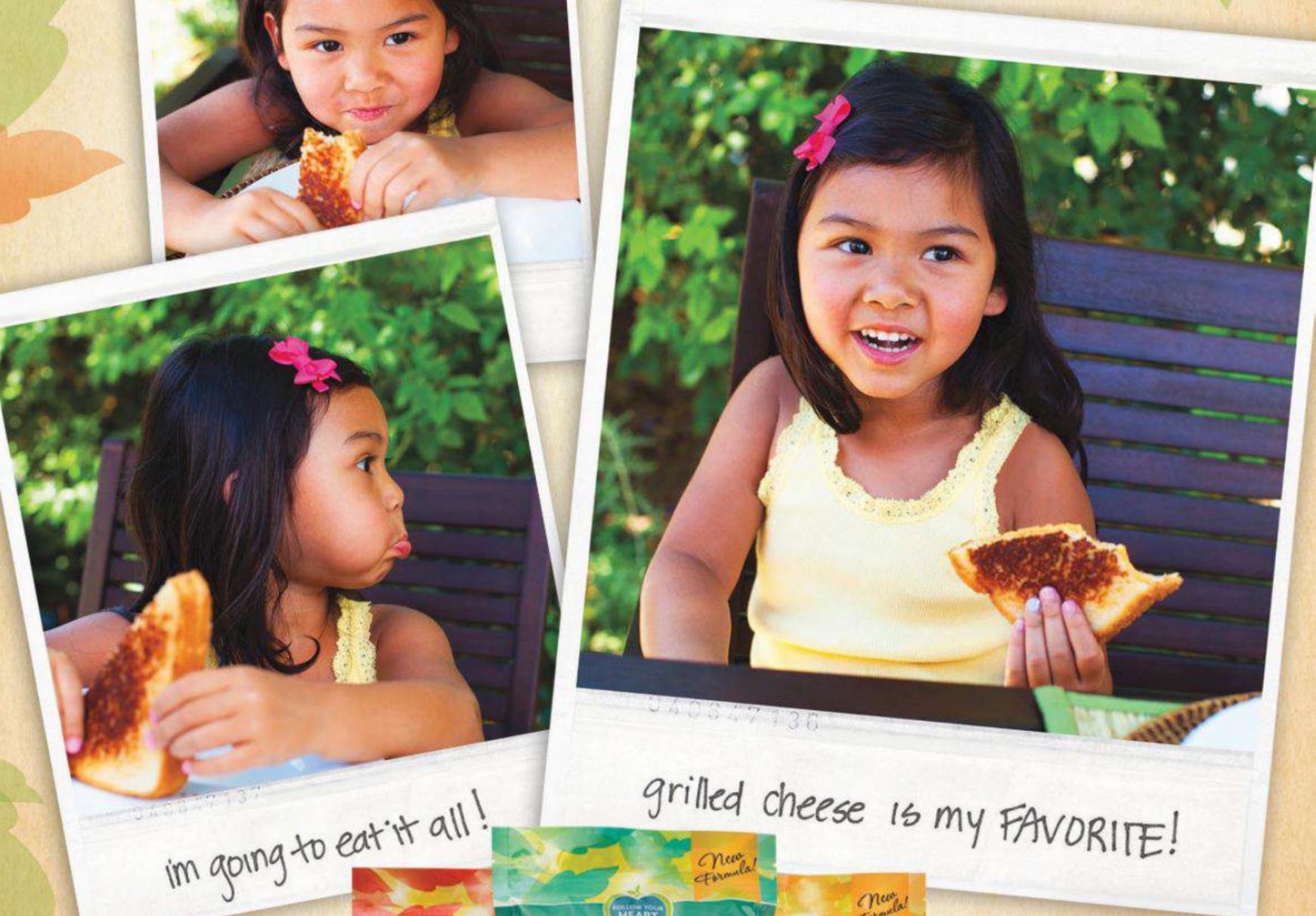


« VEGGING OUT: Vegans Occupy Oakland vegetariantimes.com/veggingoutoakland

Check out some of the hippest places for vegan eats in Oakland, Calif.—and share any we may have missed—on the Veg Daily Blog.

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contributors





Marygrace Taylor

Recipe Developer, "Quick-Fix Dips," p. 34 What did you discover while on this assignment? Pitting two cups' worth of kalamata olives is no fun. Save your sanity and buy the ones that are already pitted.

What was your most memorable dining experience? The veg food in Los Angeles is so good, and going there for the first time as a college student was really eye-opening. It was the first time I had a veggie burger that didn't come frozen in a box! What was your best improvisatory moment in the kitchen? Corn-and-mushroom tacos with salsa verde. I made them on a whim last summer, and we ended up eating them all season long.

Scott Horne

Prop Stylist, "Make Over Your Morning Meal," p. 40; "The 100 Best," p. 66

What's your No. 1 pantry staple?

Nuts! Any kind. They're one of the few foods that can be eaten throughout the day-morning, noon, and night. I love having them out around the house to snack on. When people come over, I always put a bunch of different nuts in espresso mugs on a tray, so they are easy to eat.

What's your favorite piece of cookware? My All-Clad frying pan. It seems to cook food more evenly, and I find that All-Clad is easier to clean than others.

Who or what inspires you most? Creative people people who make things.





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Karen Asp

Writer, "Make Over Your Morning Meal," p. 40 What's your No. 1 pantry staple?

I have two: dried beans (black beans are my favorite) and peanut butter (I love NuttZo).

What's your most treasured family food tradition?

From fall through spring, every Sunday is "Souper Sunday" in my house. That day, I cook soup (sometimes a new recipe, sometimes an old favorite), often pairing it with salad or bread, which is dinner for my husband and me. We look forward to the first Souper Sunday every fall.

What's your No. 1 grocery splurge? Talenti Gelato double dark chocolate. (To be honest, that and pizza are the two things holding me back from being vegan!)



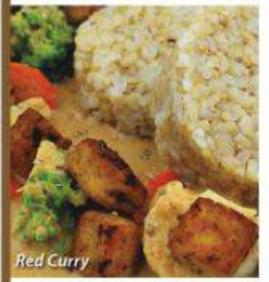
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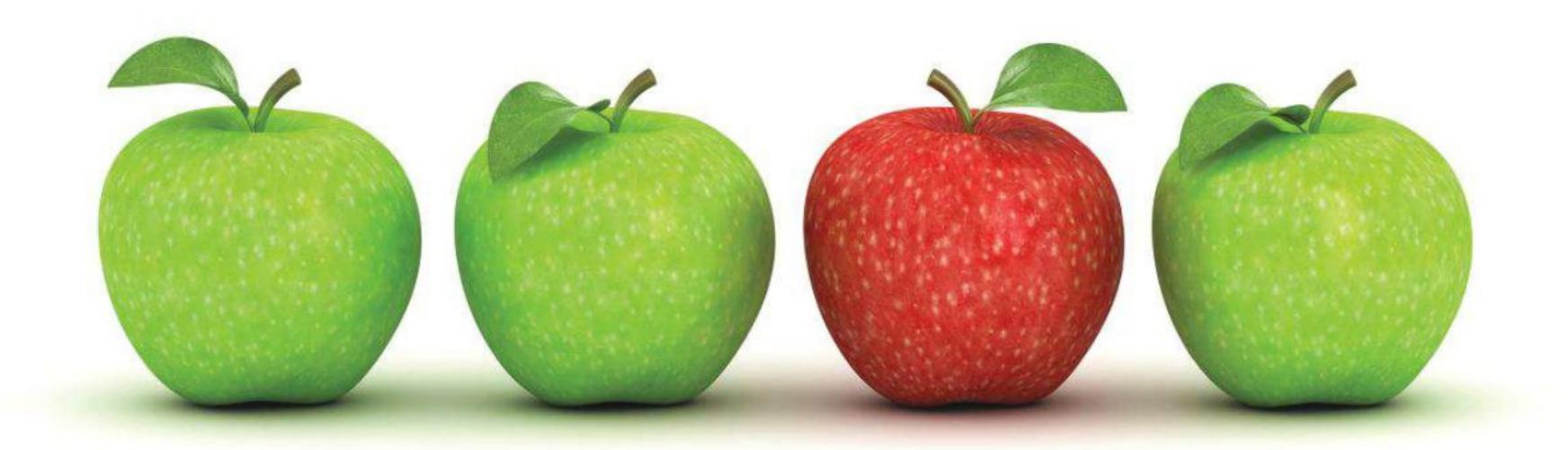
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letters

SWEET STUFF

Thanks for always creating delicious recipes with inventive ways to enjoy in-season produce. Each time my Vegetarian Times arrives, my kids look to see what they want to try. They made the Rustic Nectarine-Blueberry Tart [1 Food 5 Ways: "Nectarines," September, p. 74] with little help from me! Beautiful and delicious. Thanks for helping to encourage healthy treats for my young kids.

BETH ALLEN-BOYLE | CRANBERRY TOWNSHIP, PA.

A+ FOR VEG CAFETERIA

Thank you for profiling PS 244's progressive all-vegetarian cafeteria [VT Special: "The Cafeteria Report," September, p. 54]! I'm very inspired that a public school is undertaking this mission, not only for health but also as mindfulness education. With two kids moving toward elementary school, I think a lot about the food choices in our community, and modeling the joy and pleasure of Earth's bounty is key to teaching healthy values. Whether or not a family is vegetarian, what a great way to nourish minds and bodies and help kids keep a spirit of adventure

LOOK! Pennsylvania-based reader Beth Allen-Boyle sent this photo of her young baking apprentice and their gorgeous VT creation (see "Sweet Stuff," below, left).

around food. I applaud the school's administration and the kitchen staff, who no doubt took this challenge to heart. Now I have a model to look to when advocating for change in my local schools. Bravo!

ERICA DANKMEYER VIA E-MAIL

BOWLED OVER

You guys have outdone yourselves on the September issue! I usually tag a few recipes to try, but this month almost every single article is tagged. Maybe because so many of the recipes are vegan or easily veganizable, or because the focus seems to be on real, healthy foods, but this issue has everything I love. And on top of all that, the "Super Bowls" piece [30 Minutes, p. 30] made me so happy because I've wanted recipes for healthy bowls, and here they are. Thank you!

EVE LYNCH | SAN FRANCISCO

HEALTHY OR NOT?

I am enjoying learning more about healthy eating with some of the articles in your magazine. I was surprised to see that the Egg-and-Cheese Breakfast Wrap [5 Ingredients: "Wrap Stars," June, p. 38] had 206 milligrams of cholesterol, and the Blood Berry [1 Food 5 Ways: "Strawberries," p. 60] had 39 grams of sugar. I know they are vegetarian—are they healthy?

DEBBY SNYDER VIA E-MAIL

Editor's Note: A serving of the Eggand-Cheese Breakfast Wrap falls within the Mayo Clinic guideline to limit cholesterol to less than 300 milligrams daily. The Bloody Berry cocktail, which contains 8 teaspoons of added sugar, definitely qualifies as a decadent treat. The American Heart Association recommends limiting daily added sugar to 6 teaspoons (24 grams) for women, and 9 teaspoons (36 grams) for men.

Send your letters to: editor@vegetariantimes.com

SHARE: READER RECIPE

Orzo Salad with Feta, Kalamata Olives, Dried Cranberries, and Walnuts

Serves 4 | 30 minutes or fewer

When Margie Coloian, of Johnston, R.I., experimented with going veg earlier this year, she turned to this satisfying pasta salad over and over. She suggests serving it as a side dish at dinner, or packing for lunch (no microwave necessary).

DRESSING

- 2 Tbs. white balsamic vinegar
- 1 Tbs. olive oil
- 1 clove garlic, minced (1 tsp.)
 SALAD
- ½ cup uncooked orzo
- 1 large tomato, chopped
- 1/2 medium red onion, chopped
- 1/3 cup crumbled feta cheese
- ¼ cup chopped red bell pepper
- 14 cup dried cranberries
- ¼ cup walnuts, chopped
- ¼ cup kalamata olives, chopped
- 2 Tbs. fresh parsley, chopped

- 1 To make Dressing: whisk together vinegar, oil, and garlic in small bowl, and season with salt and pepper, if desired.
- 2 | To make Salad: cook orzo according to package directions; drain, rinse with cold water, and drain again.
- 3 | Combine orzo with tomato, onion, feta, bell pepper, cranberries, walnuts, olives, and parsley in medium bowl.
 Add Dressing, and toss to combine.
 Serve at room temperature.

 PER 1-CUP SERVING 254 cal; 7 g prot; 13 g total fat (2 g sat fat): 29 g carb: 11 mg chol: 269 mg.

fat (3 g sat fat); 29 g carb; 11 mg chol; 269 mg sod; 3 g fiber; 10 g sugars



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po Your Homework If you haven't already, read "Make Over Your Morning Meal" (p. 40). You'll get schooled in how to build a healthy, protein-packed breakfast to curb overeating. Plus, you'll get nine mixn-match high-protein breakfast recipes you'll want to make again and again.



TEST YOUR BREAKFAST IQ Sign up at

vegetariantimes.com/betterbreakfast for seven daily quiz questions to be delivered straight to your in-box via e-newsletters. Quiz questions will test what you've learned so far, and dish out more must-have breakfast knowledge.

COMPARE NOTES Share your comments on the featured recipe of the day, and see what others have to say!

TELL VT What's your best throw-together dinner idea?

I dice up an avocado and tomatoes, toss them with soy sauce and sriracha, then top with sesame seeds. It's light, but tastes indulgent and satisfying! —STEPHANIE

Wild rice with portobello mushrooms, black beans, red onions, and tomatoes. I put the rice in my steamer, and sauté the veggies 10 minutes before the rice is done. Also makes great leftovers!

-KATHY ROGERS, VIA FACEBOOK

Fresh chard cut into strips and sweet onions, sautéed with crushed garlic. Add a chopped tomato, toss with whole-wheat penne, and top with grated Manchego.

-CAROLE WHEELER, VIA FACEBOOK

Ramen noodles with a veggie bouillon cube (instead of the packet with chicken or beef solids) and some frozen Asian stir-fry veggies. So easy and fast!

-JILLIAN McKEOWN, VIA FACEBOOK

next question: What's your favorite family food tradition at Thanksgiving?

Visit **vegetariantimes.com/tellvt** to share your answer—and see what others have to say. Our favorite responses will be published in the next issue of VT.



HAPPY versary

Reader Name: Lauren Lukacek Hometown: Milwaukee Vegan Since: December 1997

What motivated you to go veg? My older, veg sister wrote a persuasive speech for school about vegetarianism and practiced it on me. It worked.

What's your most treasured piece of heirloom cookware?
My mom sent me her Crock-Pot—it's such a time-saver in winter.

What's your favorite veg restaurant, and what do you order there? Candle Cafe in New York. I get the BBQ Tempeh Sandwich. Yum!

What's your best advice for new vegetarians/vegans?
Look for ways to make your old favorite meaty dishes meat-free. I make delicious Sloppy Jane sandwiches with kidney beans! Every time I make them, I'm reminded of childhood cookouts with family. It's comforting to have those old recipes made new.

Share your vegiversary at vegetariantimes.com/vegiversary.



Named for

the 18th-century Pennsylvania
farmer who, legend has it, introduced the
diminutive fruit, the Seckel rates as the smallest
and sweetest of all commercially grown pear
varieties. So sweet is the blushing Seckel that
it's also called a sugar pear. Seckels tend not
to travel well or hold up during long-term
storage, so you'll mostly find them at
local fall and early winter markets.

—MATTHEW KADEY, RD

SECKEL

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Pealf

HOW TO SELECT AND STORE

"Look for Seckel pears that are fairly firm, with a deep maroon blush that may cover most of the fruit," says Brianna Shales of Stemilt Growers in Wenatchee, Wash. Check that the woody stem is still attached; any exposure of the flesh hastens decay. Also, avoid fruits with soft spots or scars more than skin-deep. Shale advises keeping Seckel pears for up to a week in the crisper of your fridge, away from any strong-smelling foods. If unripe, leave the fruit at room temperature until the area near the stem yields to gentle pressure.

Once ripe, the fruit should be eaten promptly.

TRY THIS

Blend coconut water, Seckel pear, plain Greek yogurt, whole almonds, fresh ginger, and allspice into a smoothie.

Poach peeled whole Seckels with orange juice, pomegranate molasses, a cinnamon stick, and a split vanilla bean.

For a salsa, stir together chopped Seckel pear, red bell pepper, jalapeño chile, and fresh mint; season with lime juice and salt.

PREPTIPS

The Seckel pear's sweet flesh and petite size make it the perfect out-of-hand snack or addition to a lunch box. Seckels are also well suited to canning or poaching, and to garnishing salads or sandwiches. Shales likes to pair the fruit with red wine and light cheeses such as fontina. Unlike most pear varieties, Seckels won't brown quickly once they're sliced.

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CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: PIPEWORKS BREWING: BJ PICHMAN; NIGHT SHIFT BREWING: HANNAH COHEN; BURNT HICKORY BREWERY; BAELTANE BREWING

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the size of your garage, home brewers gone pro are handcrafting beers. Here we cheer all-veg nanos for saying no to animal-sourced clarifying agents such as gelatin and isinglass.

-OLIVIA M. HALL



BAELTANE BREWING

Novato, Calif. baeltanebrewing.com

For a taste of Europe just north of San Francisco, visit this cozy community café board games provided. Artisanal Belgian-style and West Coast ales and Frenchstyle saisons flow from the small tasting room's 12 taps, brews that owner Alan Atha describes as traditionalist with a twist. On weekends, live bands entertain with Celtic tunes.

Signature Suds: Mon Coeur Sauvage (Chocolate Ale), featuring Ecuadorian cacao nibs and raspberries



PIPEWORKS BREWING

Chicago

pipeworksbrewing.net

RateBeer's 2012 Top New Brewer in the World is a prolific beer crafter, with 40 different brews bottled in the first year alone. "Nothing we make is supertraditional or really crazy, either," says co-owner Gerrit Lewis. Find the newest creations, and some favorites on rotation, in more than 100 Chicagoarea taverns and stores. Look for a tasting room and bottle shop to open later this year.

Signature Suds: Ninja vs. Unicorn (Double IPA), unfiltered and brewed with 5 pounds of hops per barrel



BURNT HICKORY BREWERY

Kennesaw, Ga.

burnthickorybrewery.com References to punk bands adorn Burnt Hickory's bottles, which fits with the high-gravity and occasionally barrel-aged ales from owner Scott Hedeen, who likens his craft to the DIY

ethos of a garage band. Try his beers on taps nearby, or attend a tasting room open house on the second Saturday of each month.

Signature Suds: Didjits (IPA), brewed with blood oranges and citrus-like aroma hops

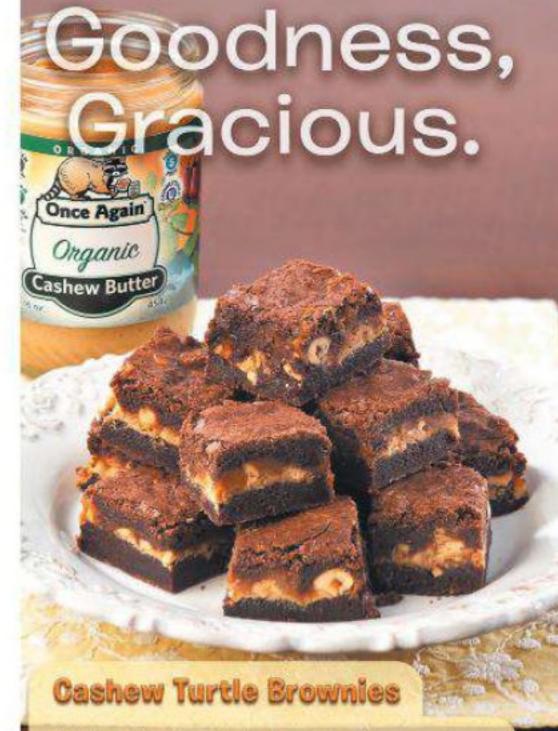


NIGHT SHIFT BREWING

Everett, Mass. nightshiftbrewing.com

Night Shift beers break with tradition in favor of (sometimes unbridled) experimentation. "Our style is off-style," says cofounder Rob Burns. "We also highly encourage drinking our beers with meals, so we put suggested pairings on our labels." Brews are available in the tiny tasting room and at a few dozen stores plus a handful of bars in and around Boston.

Signature Suds: Somer Weisse (Berliner Weisse), brewed with lemongrass and ginger



Find Once Again products at your local co-op or natural products store.

10 tbsp (11/4 sticks) unsalted

- butter, diced 1 cup + 1/2 cup semi-sweet
- chocolate chunks 2 ounces unsweetened baking chocolate
- 11/4 cups granulated sugar
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 2 large eggs
- 3/4 cup flour
- 1/2 tsp salt Pan spray

36 caramel candies

- 3 tbsp heavy cream
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 1/2 cup Once Again Organic Cashew Butter
- 1/2 cup chopped Once Again Roasted Salted Cashews

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Vegetarian

Preheat the oven to 325°F. Line an 8 or 9 inch square glass baking dish with foil, letting the foil hang over the sides by about an inch. Spray the foil liberally with pan spray. Heat the butter, 1 cup of chocolate chunks, and unsweetened baking chocolate in a double boiler over medium heat. Stir until the chocolate and butter are melted. Carefully remove the bowl from the double boiler. Stir in the sugar and vanilla, then whisk briskly for 1 minute. Slowly whisk in the eggs in a steady stream. Stir in the flour and salt until incorporated, then whisk briskly for 1 minute. Pour half of the batter into the lined baking dish. Reserve the remaining half. Place the pan in the oven and bake for 10-12 minutes, until batter is just set. While the brownies are baking, place the caramels in a microwave safe bowl and microwave on high for 1 1/2 to 2 minutes to melt. Remove from the microwave and whisk in the heavy cream. After 10 minutes, remove the brownies from the oven. Drop the cashew butter by tablespoons on top of the brownies, then sprinkle with the chopped cashews and remaining 1/2 cup of chocolate chunks. Drizzle with the caramel. Drop the reserved brownie batter evenly on top of the caramel. Use a wooden spoon to gently spread the batter to the edges, covering the caramel as much as possible. Return the brownies to the oven and continue baking for another 30-35 minutes or until the brownies pull away from the sides. Remove from the oven and cool to room temperature, then place in the fridge to cool completely. Use the foil overhang to remove the brownies from the pan. Discard the foil. Trim the edges and slice into 16 squares. Enjoy!

NUTRIENTS PER SERVING (16 servings): CALORIES: 412, TOTAL FAT: 23.3g, SAT. FAT: 11.4g, CHOLESTEROL: 46.4mg, SODIUM: 155mg, CARBS: 51g, FIBER: 1.1g, SUGARS: 37.5g, PROTEIN: 4.5g.



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While a stylish solution, hats merely cover up sparse strands. Consider getting to the root of the problem: most hair loss may be hereditary, but stress, inflammation, and autoimmune conditions can play a role. For healthier locks, turn to these natural hair helpers.

—SUSAN ENFIELD

thinning hair FIXES

ROSEMARY ESSENTIAL OIL

why Essential oil extracted from the Rosmarinus officinalis herb can help stimulate scalp circulation, promoting normal follicle function and hair growth, says Tracey Beaulne, ND, who practices in Toronto. A study published in Archives of Dermatology found that regular scalp massage with rosemary and other essential oils improved symptoms in nearly half of patients with spot balding.

how Add several drops of rosemary essential oil to 2 to 3 tablespoons of a carrier oil (jojoba, grape seed, or olive), and vigorously massage into your scalp and roots for 2 to 3 minutes, delivering the essential oil's volatile compounds directly to the hair shaft, Beaulne advises. Focus the massage at the top of the head, toward the center-considered the nexus of acupressure points. "This draws energy and circulation to the scalp, which can stimulate hair growth," Beaulne explains. Postmassage, wrap your head in a warm towel, and let the oils absorb into the scalp for about 20 minutes, then shampoo out.

kit pick Aura Cacia Organic Rosemary Essential Oil \$8.29/0.25 oz.; auracacia.com

TURMERIC

why Potent antioxidants called curcuminoids in the curry spice Curcuma longa help reduce inflammation in the body—often a stealth culprit in hair loss, says San Jose, Calif.—based integrative physician Julie T. Chen, MD. Significant stress, whether from chronic pain or lack of sleep or from an autoimmune condition such as rheumatoid arthritis, increases inflammation throughout the body, and even moderately elevated inflammation levels can disrupt the natural growth cycle of hair, causing it to fall out and grow back more slowly.

how Start by taking 800 to 1,500 milligrams of turmeric, standardized to 95 percent curcuminoids, Chen recommends. Look for a supplement that contains black pepper (also listed as piperine or BioPerine), which boosts your body's absorption, and take with food. Once you notice hair loss diminishing, you can lower the dose to 400 to 800 milligrams, eventually tapering down to simply cooking with turmeric.

kit pick Oregon's Wild Harvest

Turmeric \$29.95/60 veg caps; oregons
wildharvest.com



HORSETAIL TEA

why The fern-like Equisetum arvense plant is rich in silica, an organic form of the mineral silicon. "Horsetail adds resilience and strength to the hair strand, similar to silica's effect in other parts of the body, such as the skin, nails, and bones," says nutritionist Paula Simpson, RNCP, who practices in Toronto and New York City.

how Prepare an herbal infusion by pouring hot water over a tea bag or over 2 to 3 teaspoonfuls of horsetail placed in a tea ball. Steep 5 to 10 minutes, and drink three times daily, Simpson suggests. Traditionally, horsetail has also been used as a mild diuretic, so staying hydrated is vital.

kit pick Alvita Horsetail Grass Tea

\$6.69/24 tea bags; twinlab.com/brands/alvita

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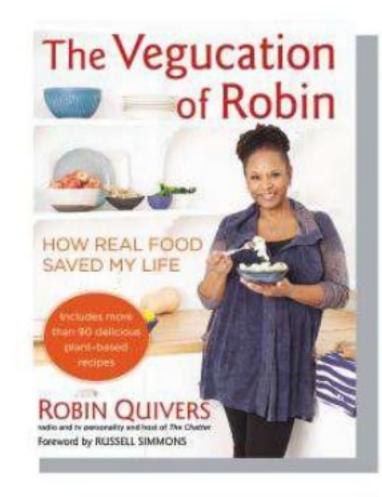
Scents include Basil, Lavender, Lemon Verbena, Geranium and many others.



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SIRIUS VEGAN



Fans of Sirius XM radio's

The Howard Stern Show are familiar with cohost Robin Quivers and her health struggles as well as her attempts to address them. In her new book, The Vegucation of Robin: How Real Food Saved My Life—which includes nearly 100 of her favorite recipes—she documents her journey to wellness via a clean [read: whole food] vegan diet. Serious as the subject of health may be, Quivers discusses it with levity and her signature laughter. —ALEXA JOY SHERMAN

What are your preferred indulgences these days?

A There's a chocolate mousse recipe with tofu in the book that's absolutely delicious. There are also fruit-based desserts, like poached pears, and lovely things you can make with sweet potatoes. Most of what people consider confections are incredibly sweet. When you start eating clean, your taste buds become more alive, and if you try any of that stuff again, you're like, "I'm not really tasting anything but sugar."

What's the 15 Foundation —the nonprofit you run -all about?

A We work with a number of charitable organizations that improve academics, nutrition, and arts education in schools. For instance, they take children to farms and show them how to harvest and cook vegetables. People are being diagnosed with chronic illnesses at younger and younger ages, and that's all because of poor eating from the very beginning of life. These organizations help change kids' minds about what to eat, and why: to provide the body with nutrients and minerals and vitamins and enzymes so it can keep itself together.

What would you say to someone who thinks it's too late to make a healthy change?

A Your body is always ready to respond in a favorable way when it gets the right stuff—that's the beauty of the human body. Frankly, it's when you're older that you really notice the effects of your choices. So I'm willing for people to learn later. There is no too late. I'm a perfect example of that!

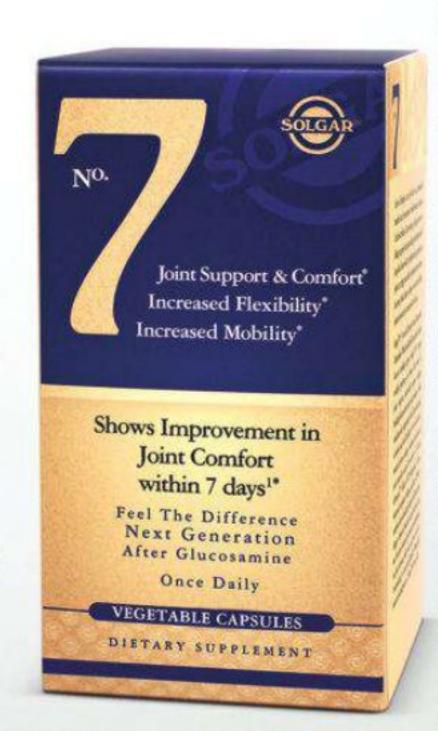


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From Ambrosia to Winesap, apples are packed with skin-rejuvenating malic acid. A type of alpha-hydroxy acid, this natural exfoliant may firm up skin by promoting collagen production. "Apples are also rich in antioxidants like vitamin C, which help protect skin from the free radicals that accelerate aging," says Lily Addisu, spa manager at Lansd-

owne Resort in Lansdowne, Va.

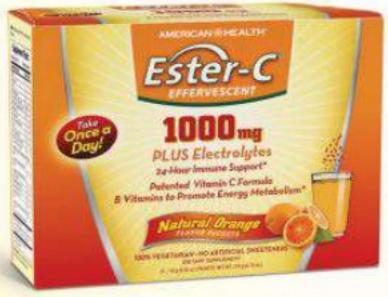
- **Beauty Simply Nourishing** Moisturizer pleasantly plumps and smooths skin. \$36/2 oz.; juicebeauty.com
- 2. MyChelle Apple Brightening Peel exfoliates and restores skin's radiance. \$31.79/1.2 oz.; mychelle.com
- 3. Desert Essence Organics Green Apple & Ginger Body Wash softens skin as you scrub. \$8.99/8 oz.; desertessence.com
- 4. Suki Creamy Foaming Cleanser refreshes the complexion. \$32.95/

with warm water.

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Celeriac Slaw with Tempeh Bacon and Avocado

Serves 4 | 30 minutes or fewer Celery root and hearty toppings turn a simple slaw into a main-dish salad.

DRESSING

- ¹/₃ cup reduced-fat, egg-free mayonnaise, such as Vegenaise
- 3 Tbs. white balsamic vinegar
- 2 Tbs. Dijon mustard
- 2 tsp. sugar
- SALAD
- 1½ lb. celeriac (celery root), peeled and coarsely shredded
 - 2 small carrots, peeled and coarsely shredded (1 cup)
 - 1 7-oz. pkg. maple bacon tempeh strips
 - 1 romaine lettuce heart, leaves separated (7 oz.)
 - 4 tsp. white balsamic vinegar
 - 1 avocado, diced
- 1 | To make Dressing: Whisk together all ingredients in large bowl. Set aside.
- **2** | To make Salad: Add celeriac and carrots to bowl with Dressing, and toss to coat. Set aside to marinate.
- **3** | Cook tempeh strips according to package directions.
- 4 | Toss romaine leaves with vinegar, and divide among plates. Top each bed of romaine with ¾ cup celery mixture and 4 strips warm tempeh bacon. Sprinkle with diced avocado.

 PER 2½-CUP SERVING 377 cal; 11 g prot; 20 g total fat (4 g sat fat); 39 g carb;

0 mg chol; 640 mg sod; 10 g fiber;

11 g sugars 🤍

Red Cabbage Salad with Curried Seitan

Serves 4 | 30 minutes or fewer
The flavor-boosting secret to this salad
is gingery prepared mango chutney. The
sautéed seitan and shredded cabbage
combination tastes great hot or cold.

DRESSING

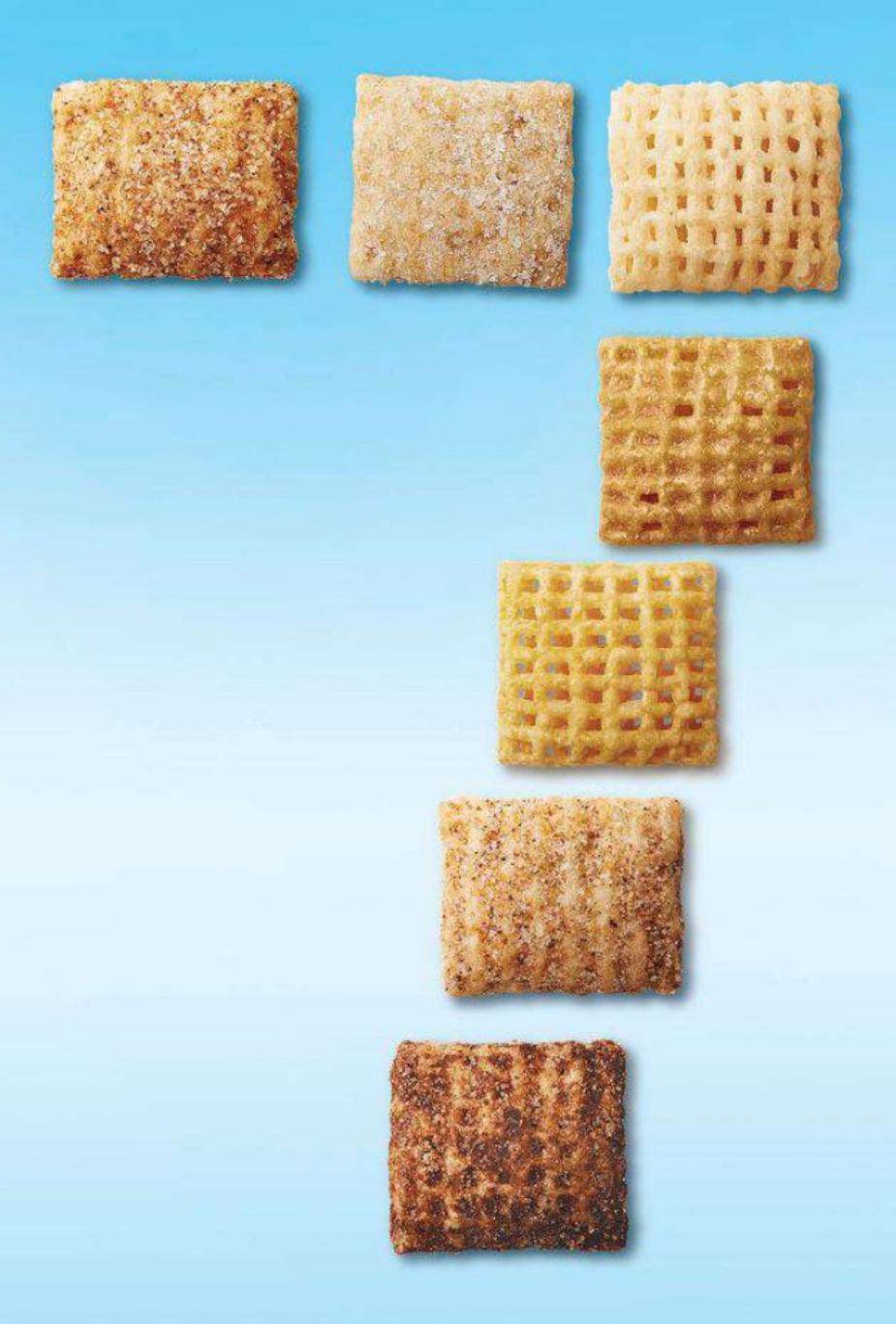
- ¹⅓ cup prepared mango chutney ¹⅓ cup creamy natural peanut butter SALAD
- 1 Tbs. olive oil
- 1 8-oz. pkg. seitan, cut into bite-size strips
- 3 cloves garlic, minced (1 Tbs.)
- 34 tsp. mild curry powder
- 6 cups shredded red cabbage (½ small head)
- 1 small cucumber, sliced into thin half moons (¾ cup)
- 3 green onions, thinly sliced (½ cup)

- 1 | To make Dressing: Blend chutney, peanut butter, and ⅓ cup water in blender until smooth. Set aside.
- 2 | To make Salad: Heat 2 tsp. oil in large skillet over medium heat. Add seitan, and season with salt, if desired. Sauté 5 to 7 minutes, or until browned. Add garlic and remaining 1 tsp. oil, and sauté 30 seconds. Sprinkle with curry powder, and sauté 2 minutes more. Remove from heat, and keep warm.
- 3 | Toss cabbage and cucumber with Dressing in large bowl. Top with warm seitan and green onions.

PER 2-CUP SERVING 330 cal; 19 g prot; 15 g total fat (2 g sat fat); 32 g carb; 0 mg chol; 587 mg sod; 5 g fiber; 22 g sugars



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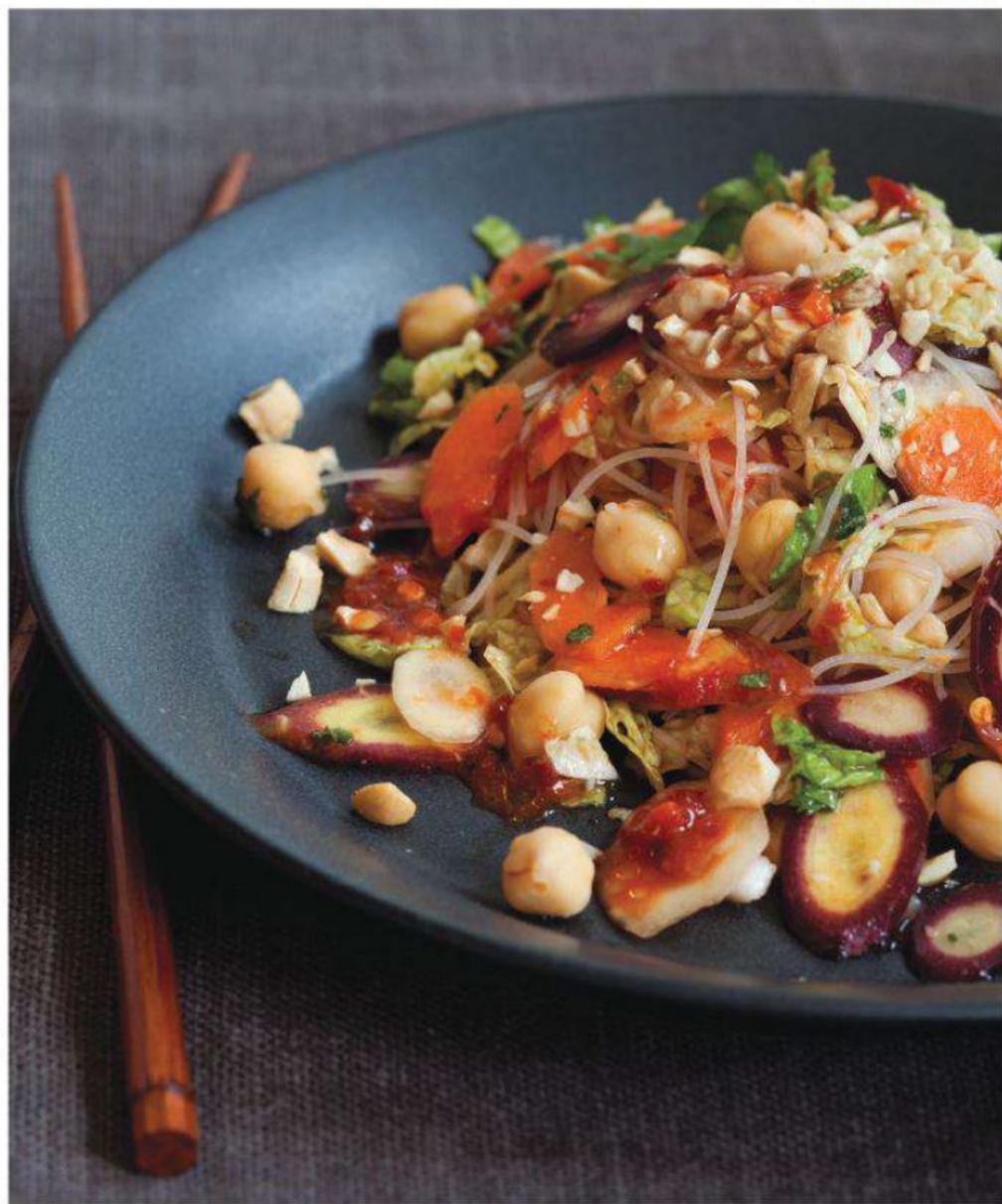
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30 minutes



BEATRIZ DA COSTA

Vietnamese Noodle Salad with Chickpeas and Rainbow Carrots

Serves 4 | 30 minutes or fewer
The dressing for this herb-laced salad is
a simple combination of lime juice and
sweet chile sauce, which can be found in
Asian markets or the international aisle of
most well-stocked grocery stores.

- 4 oz. thin rice noodles
- 6 Tbs. sweet chile sauce
- 2 Tbs. lime juice
- 3 cups thinly sliced napa cabbage
- 2 rainbow carrots, sliced into thin coins (1 cup)
- 34 cup cooked chickpeas
- 1/4 cup cilantro leaves
- 2 Tbs. finely chopped fresh mint
- ¹/₄ cup toasted unsalted cashews, chopped

- 1 Prepare rice noodles according to package directions. Drain in colander, and rinse under cold water until completely cooled.
- 2 | Stir together sweet chile sauce and lime juice in measuring cup or small bowl.
- 3 Combine noodles, cabbage, carrots, chickpeas, cilantro, and mint in large bowl. Add chile sauce mixture, and toss to coat. Garnish with toasted cashews.

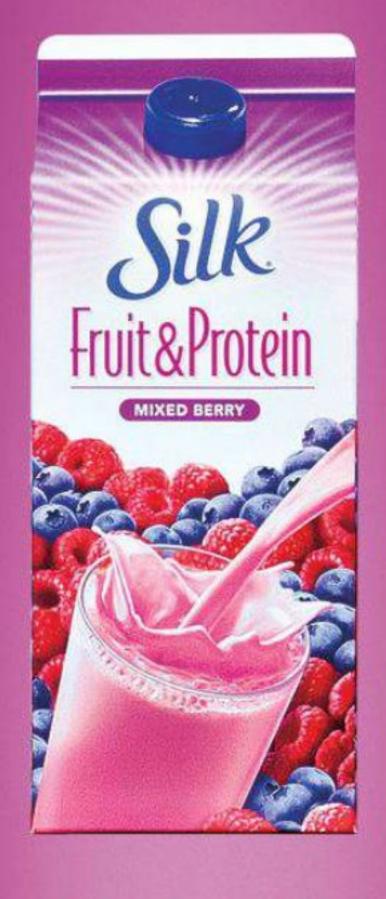
 PER 2-CUP SERVING 285 cal; 5 g prot; 5 g total fat (<1 g sat fat); 51 g carb; 0 mg chol;

 334 mg sod; 5 g fiber; 13 g sugars

Packing Asian salads for lunch? Keep the dressing separate so the noodles don't get soggy.

CONTINUED ON p. 82

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What can I learn from my food cravings? Should I listen to them?

A Your food cravings are definitely worth listening to, but what they mean is not always clear. Originally we thought that cravings—intense desires to eat a specific food—were fueled by the body's need for a particular nutrient, but that idea hasn't held up to scientific scrutiny. Otherwise, many of us would be craving bananas for vitamin B₆ and broccoli for vitamin C, as these are two of the more common nutrient deficiencies in the U.S. More often, we crave sugary and fatty foods such as chocolate. New research suggests that cravings have more to do with hormones, psychology, and brain chemistry than with nutrient deficiencies.

Cravings during pregnancy most likely result from changes in taste or appetite related to hormones. That would also explain why many women notice cravings as part of their menstrual cycle, though the research is mixed. Similarly, the appetite-stimulating hormone ghrelin might fuel the cravings commonly reported during dieting or calorie restriction. Pica—cravings for nonfood items (such as dirt or clay)—can be dangerous and should be shared with your health care provider.

It's no surprise that cues such as smelling or seeing food can spark a craving. And sometimes, when we're stressed, pleasurable food soothes us, making the craving a coping strategy. So we develop associations between certain foods and feelings of consolation. The urge to eat something comforting might also be linked to brain chemistry. Carbohydrate-rich foods seem to increase levels of a feel-good chemical called serotonin.

Because causes vary, each person's craving likely means something different, which suggests you could learn something from listening to yours. Consider keeping a log, even just for one week, and include details such as your mood when a craving strikes, the type of food you crave, and the frequency and strength of the craving. You might discover patterns or identify triggers that could offer insight. As with many food-related behaviors, awareness can be the first step in understanding.

Each person's craving likely means something different, which suggests you could learn something from listening to yours.



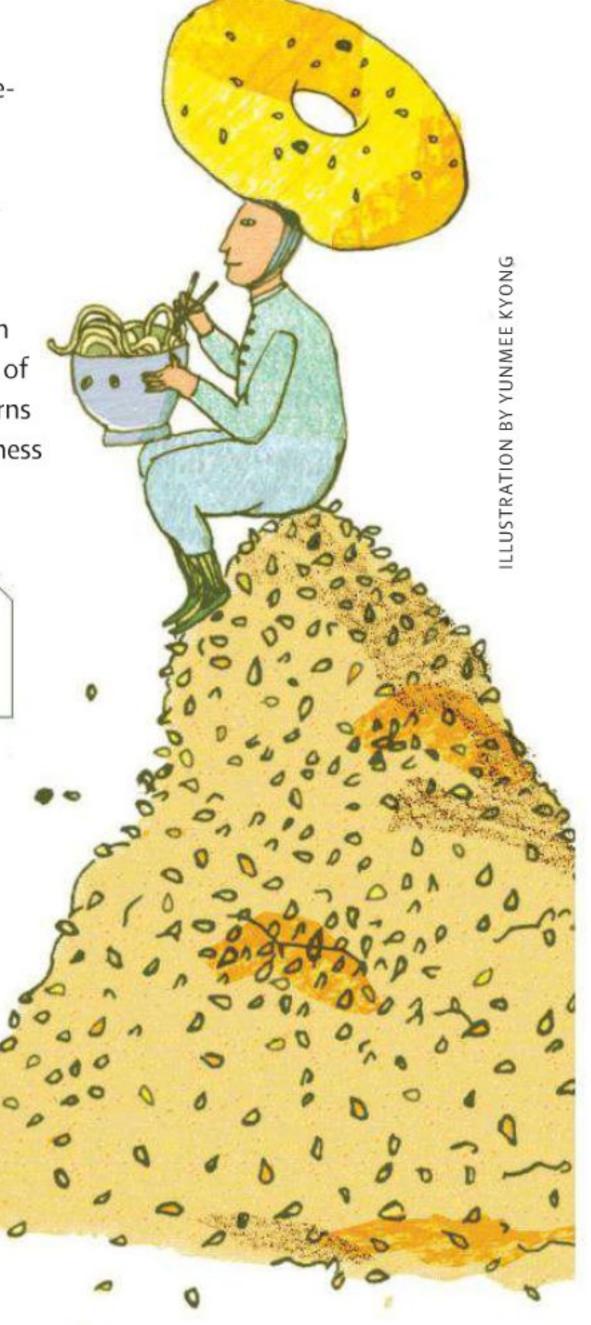
What's up with sprouted foods? Are they healthier?

A Sprouted foods are certainly healthy, and quite possibly healthier than the foods they're sourced from. Sprouting—technically called germination—happens when a seed gives off a shoot and begins to grow. Besides sunflower and other seeds, grain kernels (such as barley) and legumes (such as lentils) can also function as seeds. All can be sprouted by soaking, rinsing, and draining over several days.

A sprouted seed's protein is more digestible. The protein is also of greater quality, thanks to an increase in the amino acid lysine, which can be in short supply in some plant foods, such as grains. Addi-



Kristine Duncan, MS, RD, teaches at **Skagit Valley College** in Washington, and blogs about nutritious vegetarian food at veggirlrd.com.



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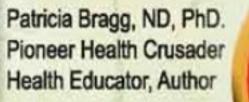
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he old saying "you win some, you lose some" could easily be rephrased when it comes to dieting: "You lose some, you gain some". Every time we start a diet and reduce our calorie intake, our metabolism slows down, leaving us feeling sluggish and frustrated. Even worse, once we reach our weight loss goals and eat regular again, the lost pounds come back like a boomerang. So we start yet another diet... and another, each of them making it harder to lose weight and sustain the results. The good news is that we can undo the damage that dieting has done to our metabolism, body and mind. We can get a fresh start and finally lose the weight for good, without feeling hungry and tired in the process!



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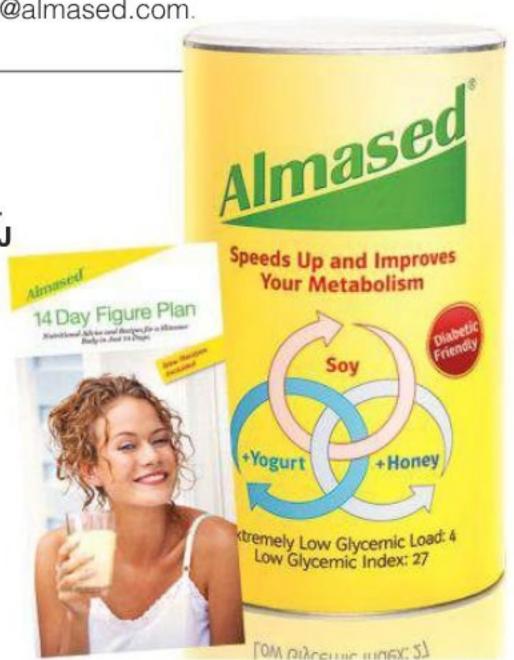
Silke Ullmann is a licensed, registered dietitian who provides nutritional guidance for Almased. Contact Silke at nutritionist@almased.com.



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Circle reply #11 on Info Center card

ask a nutritionist

tionally, levels of health-protective phytochemicals rise, along with amounts of vitamins C and E, and the B vitamins riboflavin and folate. Another benefit of sprouting is that it reduces a plant food's phytate content, and because phytate binds minerals, nutrients such as iron and zinc are more available to us.

As a bonus, sprouting might help us enjoy legumes with less of the gassy side effects. That's because when a seed germinates, some of the carbohydrate changes to a form that's a little easier to digest.

As for sprouts in products such as breads and tortillas, it depends on the brand, but some of these alternatives can have an extra gram or two of protein.

Mostly, though, sprouted packaged goods are just another delicious way to eat a whole-grain food.

One word of caution: when eaten raw, sprouts can be a source of food-borne illness, such as *E. coli* or *Salmonella*. Follow food safety rules for proper washing and storage to minimize risk. (Visit foodsafety.gov, and search for "Sprouts: What You Should Know.")



A sprouted seed's protein is more digestible.



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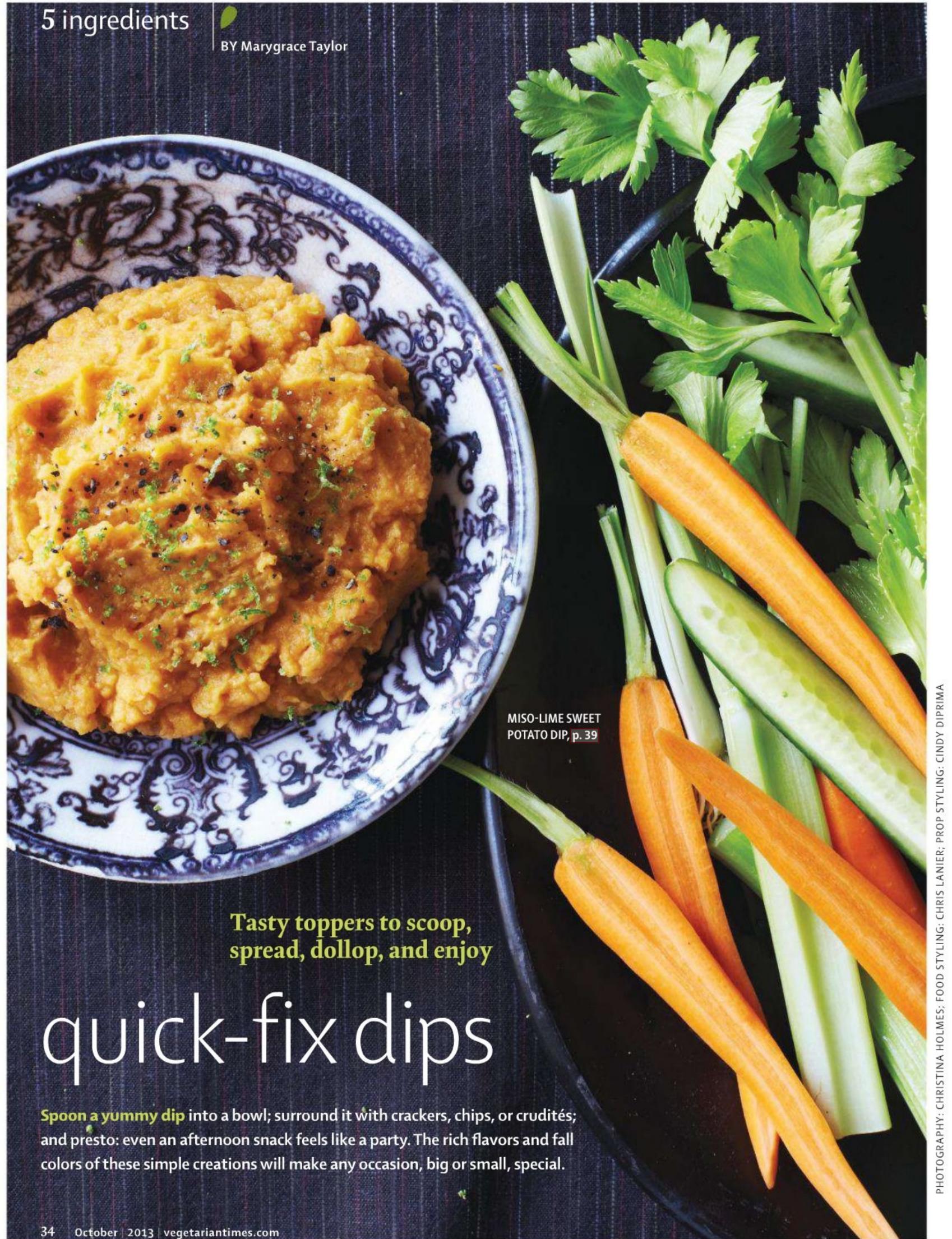




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5 ingredients



Mushroom and Cashew Pâté

Makes 2 cups | 30 minutes or fewer

Leftover pâté (if there is any!) can be used for veggie sandwiches or wraps. Serve with crispy toast points or cauliflower florets.

- 1 cup unsalted raw cashews
- 3 Tbs. olive oil
- 2 shallots, finely chopped (¼ cup)
- 4 cups sliced cremini mushrooms (11/4 lb.)
- 2 Tbs. red wine vinegar
- 1 Toast cashews in skillet over medium-high heat 2 to 3 minutes, or until beginning to brown, shaking pan constantly. Transfer to bowl of food processor, and pulse until coarsely chopped.
- 2 Heat oil in skillet over medium-high heat. Add shallots, and sauté 3 to 4 minutes. Add mushrooms, and sauté 5 to 7 minutes, or until softened. Remove from heat, and cool 5 minutes.
- 3 Add mushroom mixture and red wine vinegar to cashews in food processor, and purée until nearly smooth. Season with salt and pepper, if desired, and serve warm or at room temperature.

 PER 2-TBS. SERVING 78 cal; 2 g prot; 7 g total fat (1 g sat fat); 4 g carb;

 0 mg chol; 3 mg sod; <1 g fiber; <1 g sugars



Red Bell Pepper and Olive Tapenade

Makes 2 cups | 30 minutes or fewer

Roasted red bell peppers mellow the saltiness of a simple olive tapenade. Serve with baguette slices, pita wedges, or sliced vegetables.

- 2 medium red bell peppers
- 2 cups pitted kalamata olives
- ½ cup chopped parsley leaves
- ¼ cup olive oil
- 3 Tbs. red wine vinegar
- 1 Preheat broiler. Place bell peppers on baking sheet, and broil 10 minutes, or until blackened on all sides, turning occasionally. Transfer to paper bag or bowl, close or cover with tight lid, and cool 5 minutes. Remove skin, core, and seeds, and coarsely chop. Set aside.
- 2 Process olives, parsley, oil, and vinegar in food processor until finely chopped. Transfer mixture to large bowl, and fold in chopped bell peppers. Season with salt and pepper, if desired.

 PER 1-TBS. SERVING 39 cal; <1 g prot; 4 g total fat (<1 g sat fat); 1 g carb; 0 mg chol; 123 mg sod; <1 g fiber; <1 g sugars

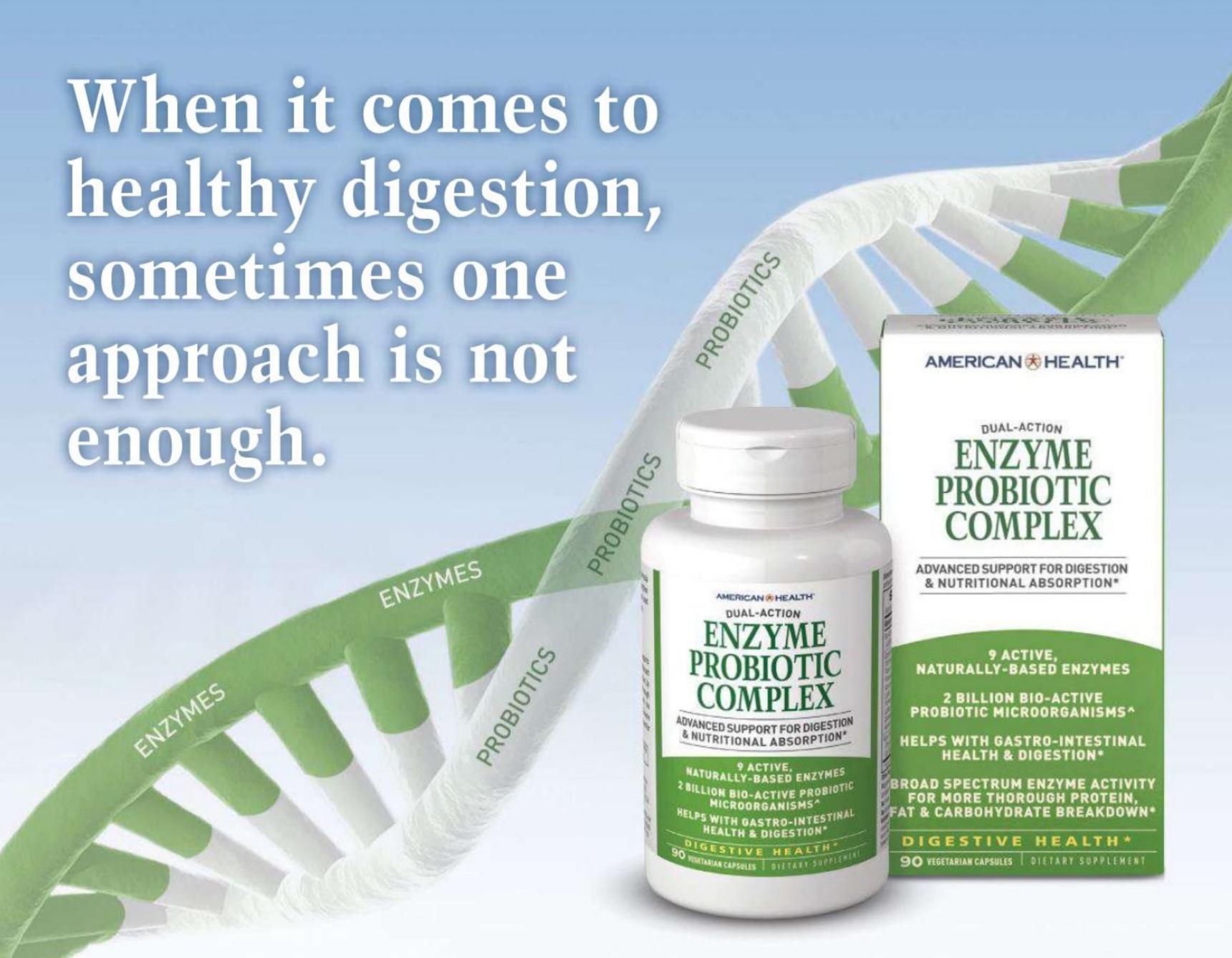


Rosemary-Almond White Bean Dip

Makes 2 cups | 30 minutes or fewer

This Italian-inspired spread has the smooth consistency of hummus with a hint of almonds. Try layering it in a tomato-topped bruschetta.

- 14 cup raw almonds
- ¼ cup olive oil
- 3 cloves garlic, minced (1 Tbs.)
- 1 Tbs. chopped fresh rosemary
- 2 15-oz. cans cannellini beans, rinsed and drained
- 1 Toast almonds in skillet over medium-high heat 2 to 3 minutes, or until beginning to brown, shaking pan constantly. Set aside.
- 2 Heat oil in skillet over medium-high heat. Add garlic and rosemary, and sauté 1 to 2 minutes, or until fragrant.
- 3 Transfer oil mixture to food processor. Add beans, and process until smooth. Add almonds, and process until finely chopped. Thin with 2 Tbs. water, and season with salt and pepper, if desired.



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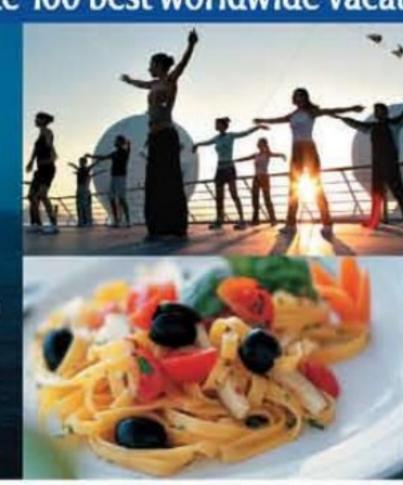
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T. Colin Campbell, Ph.D.

Dr. T. Colin Campbell, Jacob Gould Schurman Professor Emeritus of Nutritional Biochemistry at Cornell University, is co-author of *The China Study: Startling Implications for Diet, Weight Loss and Long Term Health*, the most comprehensive study of health and nutrition ever conducted. His most recent book, *Whole: Rethinking the Science of Nutrition*, has become an instant *New York Times* best seller. Dr. Campbell has authored over 300 research papers on diet, nutrition and health.

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Neal Barnard, M.D.

Associate professor of medicine and founder of Physicans Committee for Responsible Medicine, a nonprofit advocating for preventive medicine and ethical research, Dr. Barnard studies the role of nutrition in preventing and reversing disease. His 16 books include the classic *Food for Life* and the grounbreaking best seller, *Power Foods for the Brain*.



Bryant Terry

Bryant Terry is a chef, food justice activist, and author of 3 books, including his latest, *The Inspired Vegan*. He also hosts *Urban Organic*, a new multi-episode web series. Bryant completed the chef's training program at the Natural Gourmet Institute for Health and Culinary Arts in New York City. He is currently working on his 4th book, to be published in 2014.



Chef AJ

The author of *Unprocessed*, Chef AJ was Executive Vegan Pastry Chef at Sante Restaurant in Los Angeles. She teaches people how to incorporate more fresh fruits and vegetables in their diets in ways that are easy, delicious and fun. Creator and co-producer of Healthy Taste of LA, Chef AJ has followed a plant-based diet for over 35 years.



Michael Klaper, M.D.

An acclaimed physician and health educator known for his illuminating and humorous presentations on reversing disease and enhancing health through better nutrition, Dr. Klaper currently practices nutritionally-based medicine at True North Health Center in California. He has a talent for presenting complex medical topics in a simple, enjoyable format.



Yogi Desai

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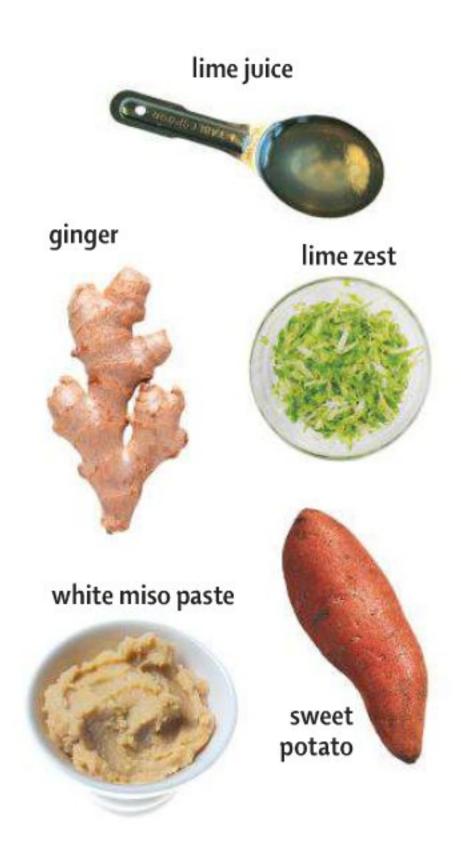
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5 ingredients



Miso-Lime Sweet Potato Dip

Makes 2 cups
Play up the Asian flavors in this spread
by serving it with rice crackers or sliced
daikon radishes.

- 2 medium sweet potatoes (11/4 lb.)
- 2 Tbs. white miso paste
- 2 Tbs. lime juice
- 1 tsp. grated fresh ginger
- ½ tsp. grated lime zest, plus more for garnish (optional)
- 1 Pierce sweet potatoes with fork, and microwave 7 to 10 minutes, or until soft. (Or bake 1 hour in 400°F oven.)
 Cool sweet potatoes 10 minutes, or until easy to handle, and then halve and coarsely chop (leave skins on).
- Transfer chopped sweet potatoes to food processor, add remaining ingredients, and pulse until smooth, adding up to 2 Tbs. water, if necessary to achieved desired consistency.

 Season with salt and pepper, if desired.

 Serve warm or at room temperature, garnished with lime zest, if using.

 PER 2-TBS. SERVING 32 cal; <1 g prot; <1 g total fat (0 g sat fat); 7 g carb; 0 mg chol; 78 mg sod; 1 g fiber; 2 g sugars



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A PROTEIN-POWERED BREAKFAST COULD BE THE KEY TO CURBING CRAVINGS THROUGHOUT THE DAY. HERE'S HOW TO SERVE IT UP

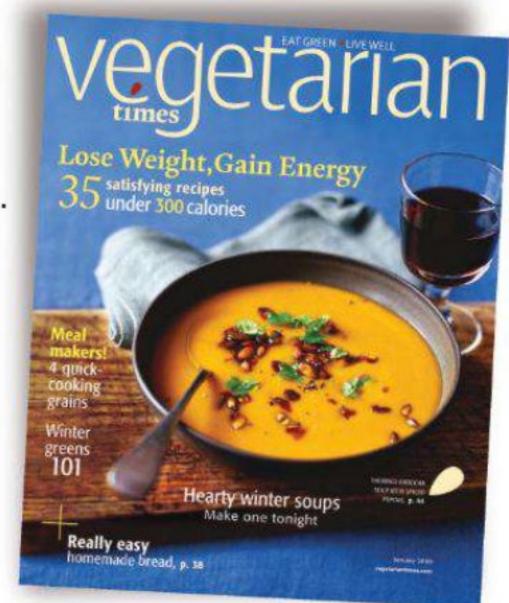
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PO BOX 420166 PALM COAST FL 32142-9107 Credit your mom for being right—again. Breakfast really is the most important meal of the day. Studies show that among the numerous benefits, breakfast eaters tend to be slimmer than morning-meal abstainers. And if you'd like to lose weight, an extra dose of protein may help.

A recent study published in *The American Journal of Clinical Nutrition* examined the effects of a high-protein breakfast on appetite control and evening snacking. When overweight college-age women ate a breakfast with 35 grams of protein—keep in mind that the average woman needs only 46 grams of protein in a day, the average man 56 grams—they felt fuller, experienced fewer cravings during the day, and didn't snack as much on unhealthful foods in the evening compared with those who ate a lower-protein breakfast or skipped the morning meal.

"Eating protein alters brain signals that control hunger and satiety," explains Heather Leidy, PhD, lead study author from the University of Missouri in Columbia. Protein may also reduce food cravings and motivational drive to eat, all of which lead to less evening snacking.

Of course, packing 35 grams of protein into a morning meal is no small feat, which begs two important questions: do you really need that much protein to jump-start your day; and if so, how do you get it?

Your health goals will largely determine the answer. If weight loss doesn't concern you, a breakfast with 7 to 15 grams of protein is perfectly fine, says Vandana Sheth, RDN, spokesperson for the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and a California-based dietitian who specializes in vegetarian eating. Yet if you want to slim down, "eating between 20 and 30 grams of protein at breakfast could help you feel fuller and make you more successful at losing weight," she says.

"Vegetarians have many options in terms of where they get their protein," says Katherine Brooking, MS, RD, cofounder of Appetite for Health and coauthor of *The Real Skinny*. See "Protein Heavy Hitters" (p. 42) for a list of wholesome options, which include breakfast basics such as soymilk, yogurt, and nut butters. But don't overlook protein powerhouses such as beans and lentils, which can shake up your morning routine in a tasty way. Brooking recommends structuring your breakfast so you're getting roughly 40 to 50 percent of your calories from carbohydrates, 25 percent from protein, and the rest from healthful fats. While carbohydrates provide energy for your brain and body, fats make food taste better and support the absorption of fat-soluble vitamins, she notes.

To help you shape a protein-powered breakfast with minimal guesswork, the following pages offer nine satisfying recipes. Who knows? Breakfast may soon become your favorite meal of the day.

Smoothies

Pineapple-Lime Smoothie

Serves 1 | 30 minutes or fewer

Purée 1 cup fresh or thawed frozen pineapple chunks with 2 Tbs. mint leaves, 2 tsp. lime juice, and ¼ tsp. grated fresh ginger in blender until mint is finely chopped. Add 6 oz. nonfat Greek yogurt, and blend until smooth. Stir in 1Tbs. chia seeds and 2 tsp. honey (optional). Let stand 5 minutes to thicken.

PER 1½-CUP SERVING 231 cal; 18 g prot; 4 g total fat (<1 g sat fat); 35 g carb; 0 mg chol; 71 mg sod; 7 g fiber; 23 g sugars @

Blueberry-Spinach Smoothie

Serves 1 | 30 minutes or fewer

Purée 4 cups baby spinach leaves with ½ cup plain soymilk in blender. Add 11/4 cups frozen blueberries, ½ cup firm tofu cubes, 2 Tbs. ground flaxseed, 2 tsp. agave nectar (optional), and 1/4 tsp. ground allspice (optional); blend until smooth.

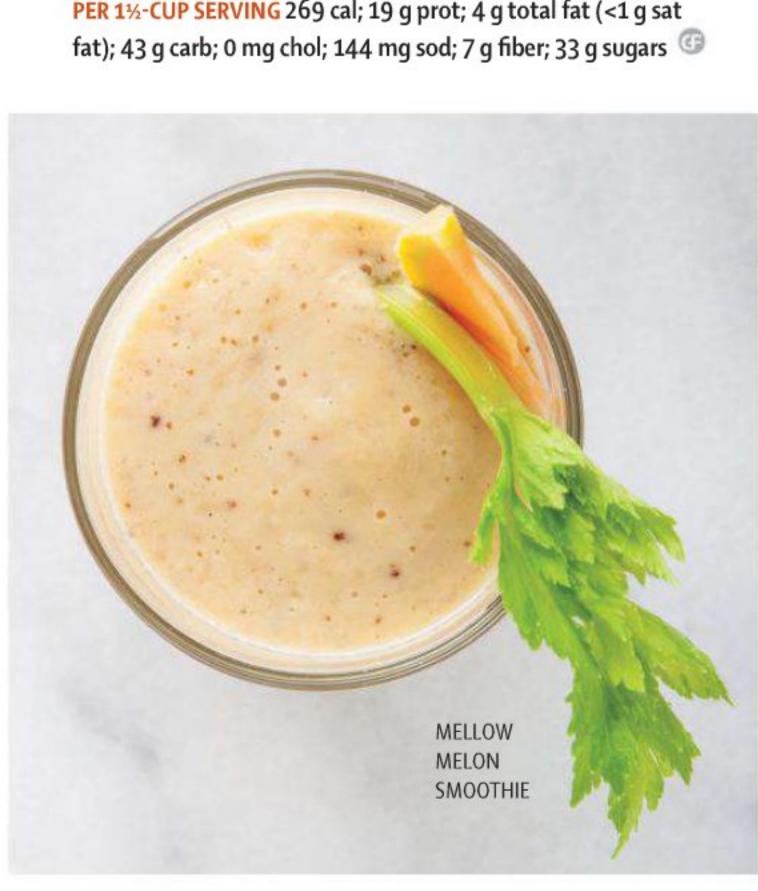
PER 2-CUP SERVING 348 cal; 20 g prot; 14 g total fat (1 g sat fat); 42 g carb; 0 mg chol; 223 mg sod; 15 g fiber; 19 g sugars 🖤 🌝

Mellow Melon Smoothie

Serves 1 | 30 minutes or fewer

Blend 1½ cups chilled or frozen cantaloupe chunks; 1/2 apple, peeled and chopped; 1/2 cup chopped celery; and ¾ cup nonfat Greek yogurt or firm tofu cubes in blender until smooth. Stir in 1Tbs. chia seeds.

PER 1½-CUP SERVING 269 cal; 19 g prot; 4 g total fat (<1 g sat





Protein heavy hitters

FOOD	SERVING SIZE	PROTEIN (g)
Greek yogurt, plain nonfa	6 oz.	17
Tempeh	½ cup	15.4
Tofu, firm	4 oz.	11
Lentils, cooked	½ cup	8.9
Milk, plain nonfat	1 cup	8.3
Peanut butter	2 Tbs.	8
Pinto beans, cooked	½ cup	7.7
Almonds	¾ cup	7.6
Black beans, cooked	½ cup	7.6
Chickpeas, cooked	½ cup	7.3
Soymilk, plain	1 cup	7
Almond butter	2 Tbs.	6.7
Soy yogurt, plain	8 oz.	6

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Breakfast sandwiches & wraps

Fruity Peanut Butter Wrap

Serves 1 | 30 minutes or fewer

Mash 2 Tbs. silken firm tofu with 1 Tbs. natural peanut butter and 1 pinch ground cinnamon in small bowl. Spread mixture on 1 multigrain or sprouted 8-inch tortilla, and sprinkle with 2 Tbs. chopped dry-roasted unsalted peanuts. Place ¼ cup grated green apple and 6 halved red seedless grapes in a line just below center of tortilla. Roll up tortilla, folding in sides as you go. Serve with ½ cup plain unsweetened soymilk or nonfat milk.

PER SERVING (1 WRAP AND ½ CUP SOYMILK) 431 cal; 19 g prot; 24 g total fat (4 g sat fat); 43 g carb; 0 mg chol; 575 mg sod; 9 g fiber; 12 g sugars



Cheesy English Muffin Stacks

Serves 1 | 30 minutes or fewer Split and toast 1 whole-grain English muffin in toaster oven. Stir 2 Tbs. finely sliced green onion into 4 cup low-fat ricotta cheese, then spread mixture onto each English muffin half. Top each with 1 slice tomato, 1 slice tempeh bacon, and 1 oz. grated light Cheddar cheese. Return to toaster oven, and toast 3 to 5 minutes, or until Cheddar has melted.

PER SERVING (2 STACKS) 349 cal; 32 g prot; 14 g total fat (8 g sat fat); 38 g carb; 50 mg chol; 732 mg sod; 11 g fiber; 6 g sugars

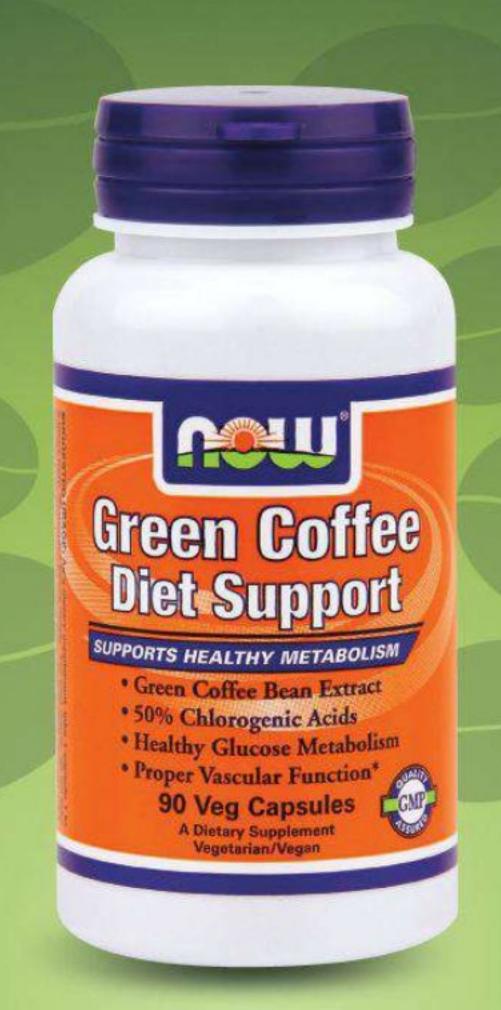
Hemp Hummus Pita Pockets

Serves 2 | 30 minutes or fewer

- 1. Bring 1½ cups cooked chickpeas, 2 tsp. minced garlic, and ½ cup water to a boil in small saucepan. Cook 1 minute, remove from heat, and coarsely mash. Stir in 3 Tbs. hemp seeds and 2 Tbs. lemon juice; season with salt and pepper, if desired. Cool.
- 2. Combine ½ cup each finely diced cucumber and tomato, ¼ cup each finely chopped green bell pepper and parsley, 2 Tbs. chopped green onion, 1 Tbs. lemon juice, and ½ tsp. olive oil in small bowl; season with salt and pepper, if desired.
- 3. Fill ½ whole-wheat pita with ½ cup hummus and ½ cup cucumber salad.

PER SERVING (½ STUFFED PITA) 395 cal; 20 g prot; 11 g total fat (1 g sat fat); 60 g carb; 0 mg chol; 449 mg sod; 13 g fiber; 10 g sugars





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Bring 1 cup green lentils and 2½ cups water to a boil with ½ onion, 2 cloves smashed garlic, and 1 bay leaf. Cover, and simmer 25 minutes, or until liquid is absorbed. Remove and discard onion, garlic, and bay leaf; stir in 1 tsp. butter (optional); and season with salt and pepper. Spoon lentils into 2 bowls, add a squeeze of fresh lemon juice, and top each serving with 1 poached egg. Garnish with chives or chopped green onion and chopped red bell pepper.

PER SERVING (1 CUP LENTILS AND 1 EGG)

378 cal; 26 g prot; 7 g total fat (2 g sat fat); 56 g carb; 185 mg chol; 159 mg sod; 14 g fiber; 3 g sugars

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Huevos Rancheros Enchiladas

Serves 6

1. Whisk 10 medium eggs with 6 Tbs. water in bowl. Season with salt and pepper, if desired. Heat 8-inch nonstick skillet coated with cooking spray over medium heat. Pour ¼ cup egg mixture into skillet, and swirl to coat bottom completely (like a crêpe). Cook 2 to 3 minutes, or until egg is firm in center. Slide onto paper-towellined plate. Top with paper towel. Repeat with remaining eggs to make 12 thin egg crêpes, then cool.

2. Wipe out skillet, coat with cooking spray, and heat over medium heat.
Add ½ cup chopped onion and 1 tsp.
ground cumin to skillet, cover, and cook
3 minutes, or until onion is soft. Add
1½ cups cooked pinto beans, 1 tsp.
minced garlic, and 1 cup water or vegetable broth. Cover, and simmer
5 minutes. Mash some of beans to thicken

sauce, add 1 cup cooked brown rice and ½ cup prepared salsa. Cook 5 minutes more, or until only a little liquid remains.

3. Roll ¼ cup filling in each egg crêpe, and place in large baking dish coated with cooking spray. Pour 1 cup prepared salsa down center of enchiladas, and sprinkle with ½ cup reduced-fat Monterey Jack cheese. Bake 15 minutes at 350°F, or until enchiladas are heated through and cheese has melted.

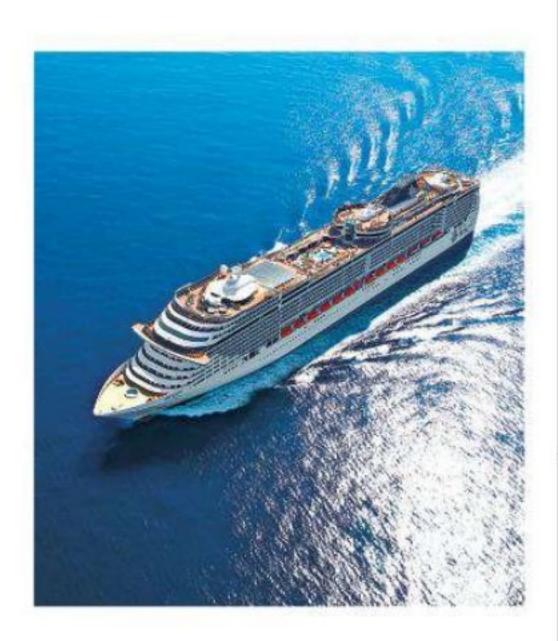
PER SERVING (2 ENCHILADAS) 260 cal; 17 g prot; 10 g total fat (4 g sat fat); 25 g carb; 280 mg chol; 748 mg sod; 6 g fiber; 4 g sugars

THESE BEAN-AND-RICE ENCHILADAS ARE WRAPPED IN CRÊPE-THIN COOKED EGGS FOR A PROTEIN BOOST.



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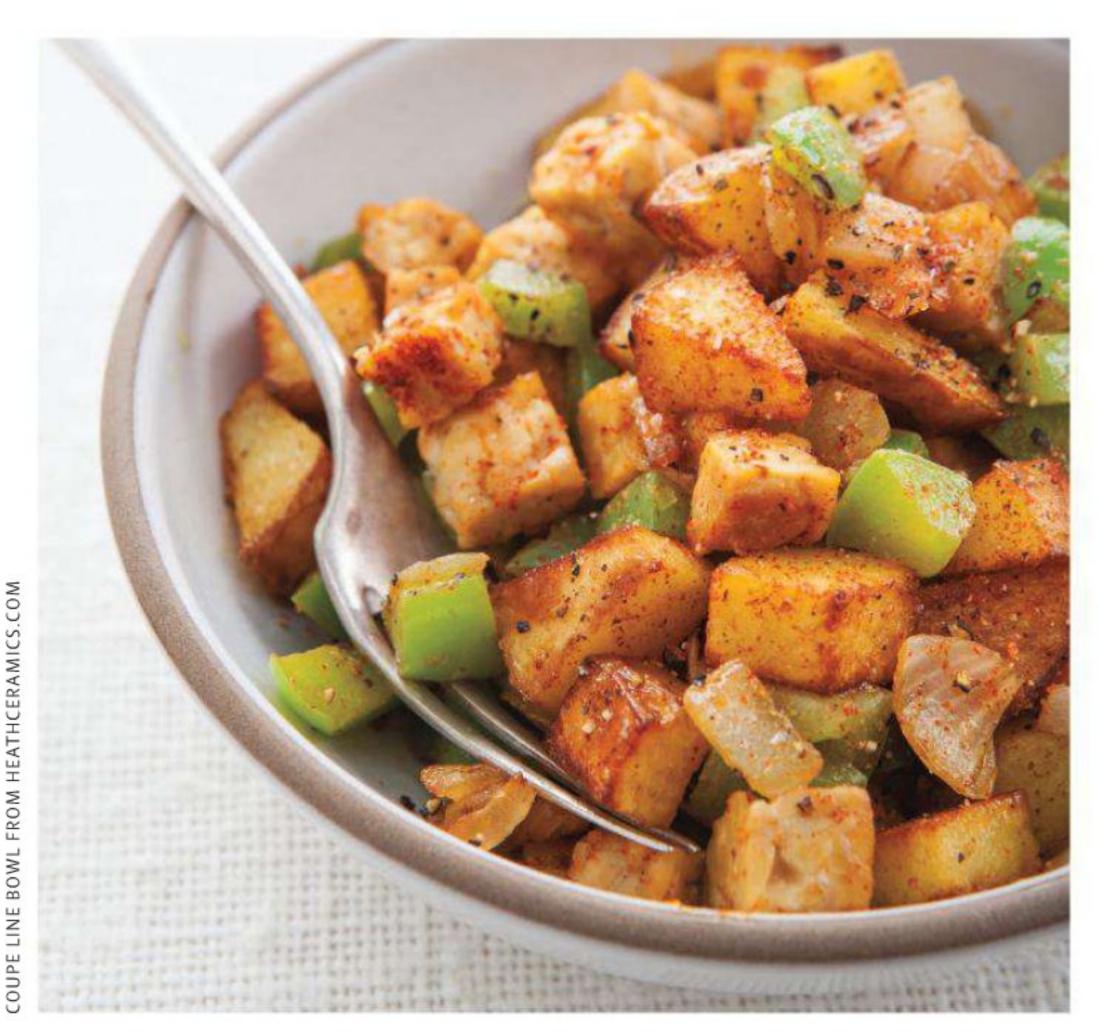


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Spicy Tempeh Hash

Serves 2 | 30 minutes or fewer Spread 8 oz. cubed tempeh in bottom of large nonstick skillet. Add 1/2 cup water, cover, and bring to a boil. Reduce heat to medium-low, and simmer 5 minutes. Drain in colander, and wipe out skillet. Add 1 Tbs. canola oil to skillet, and heat over medium-high heat. Return tempeh to pan along with 1 cup chopped onion, 1 cup chopped green bell pepper, and 1 cup diced potatoes. Sauté 5 to 7 minutes, or until beginning to brown. Sprinkle with 2 tsp. paprika, ½ tsp. garlic powder, ½ tsp. onion powder, and 1 pinch cayenne pepper. Sauté 7 to 8 minutes, or until potatoes are browned and tender.

PER 1½-CUP SERVING 397 cal; 24 g prot; 20 g total fat (3 g sat fat); 40 g carb; 0 mg chol; 22 mg sod; 5 g fiber; 6 g sugars ©

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SPICY HUMMUS

SUBMITTED BY: VITAMIX

PREPARATION: 6 minutes YIELD: 3 1/4 cups (780 g)

INGREDIENTS

15 ounces canned garbanzo beans, drained

15 ounces canned garbanzo beans, with liquid

6 teaspoons hot sauce

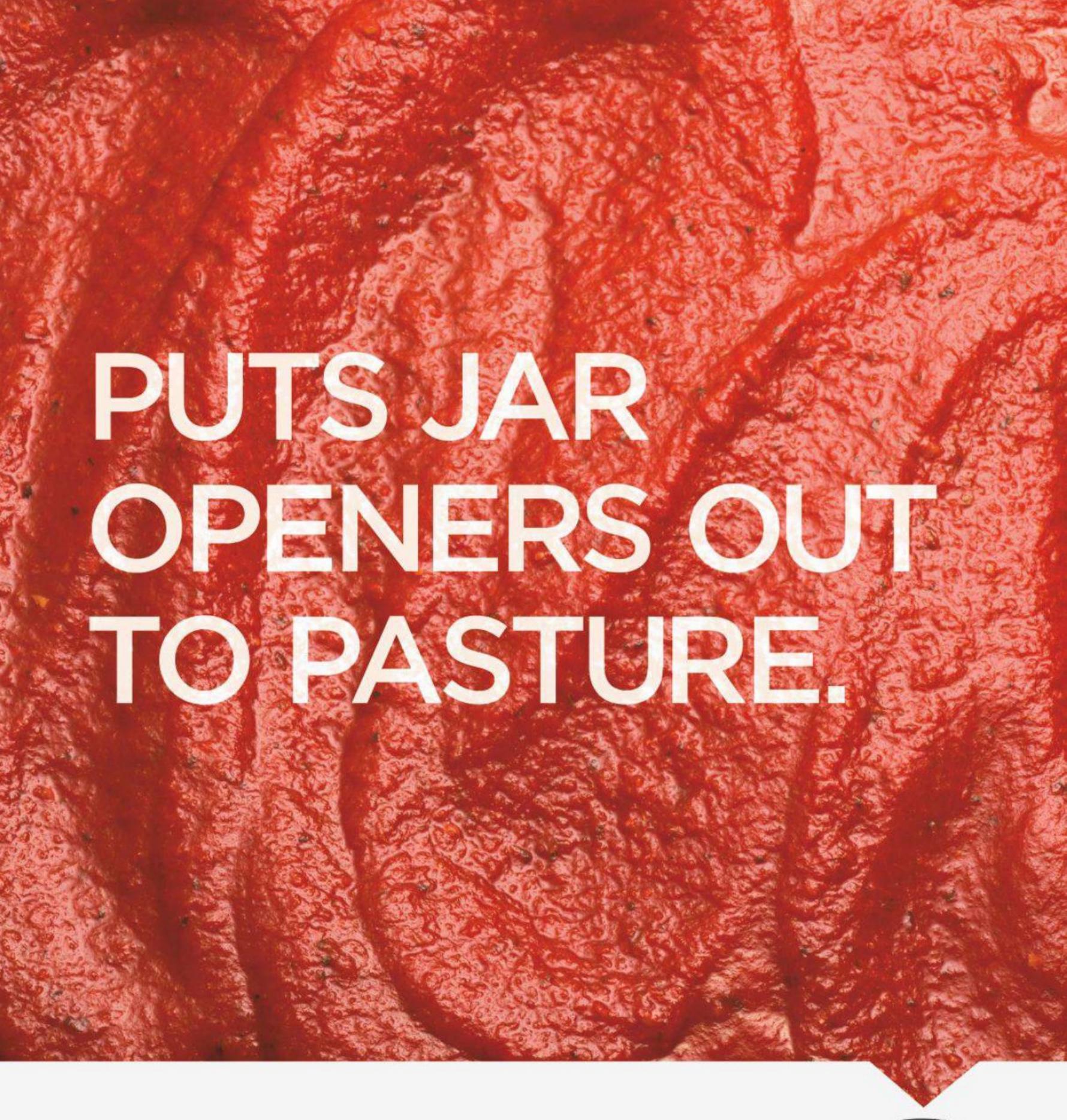
2 Tablespoons (30 ml) lemon juice

1 raw garlic clove, peeled

1 teaspoon salt (or to taste)

DIRECTIONS

- Place all ingredients into the Vitamix container in the order listed and secure lid.
- 2. Select Variable 1.
- Turn machine on and slowly increase speed to Variable 10, then to High.
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BY Mary Margaret Chappell

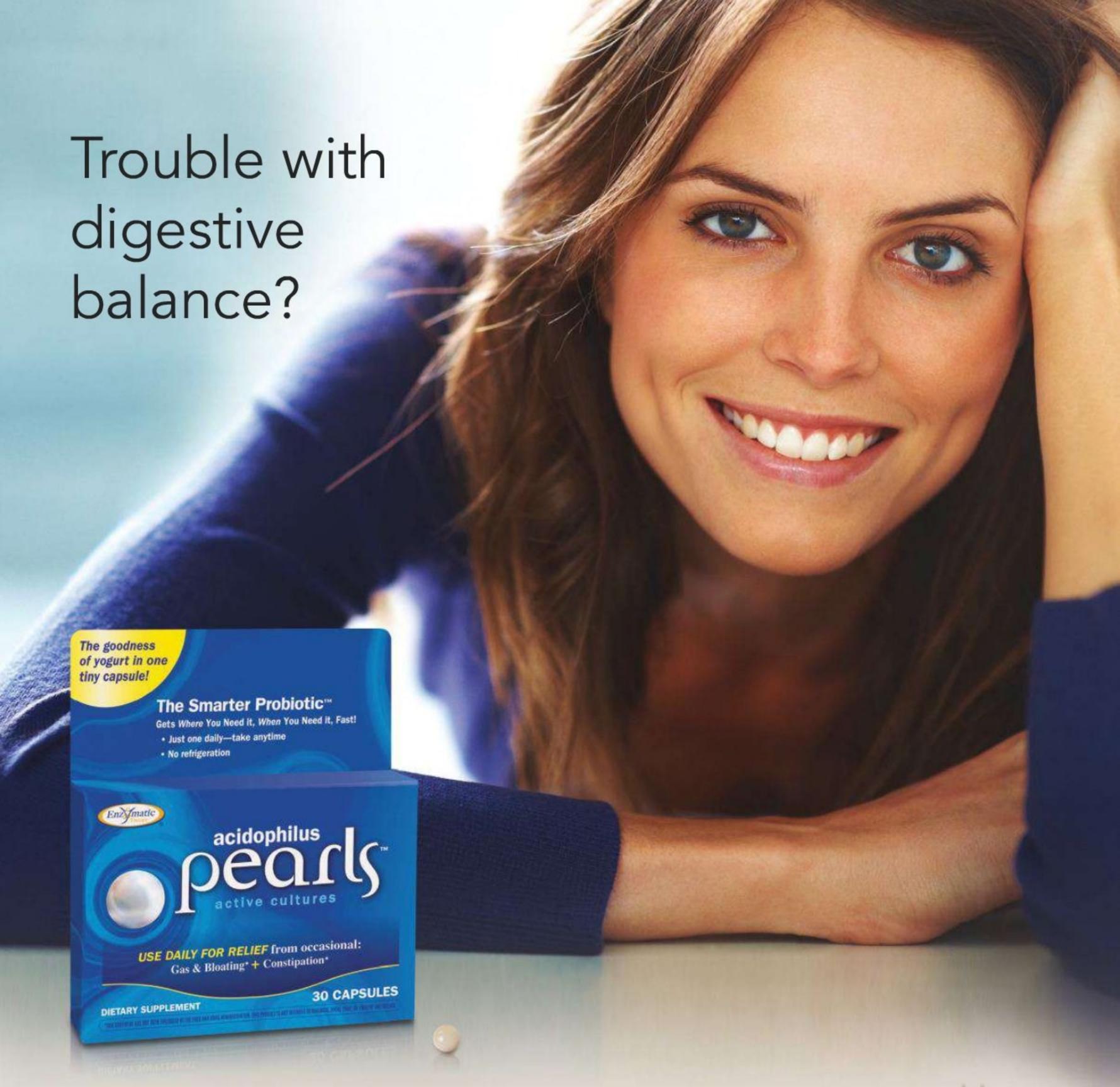
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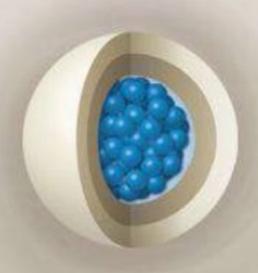
GLORIOUS GRILLED CHEESE

From the American-single offerings

of childhood to the gourmet creations of adulthood, the grilled-cheese sandwich holds a special place in the hearts of many food lovers. And while it's pretty hard to go wrong with the combination of skillet-crisped bread and melted cheese, there are a few techniques and add-ins that ensure each and every sandwich turns out just right.

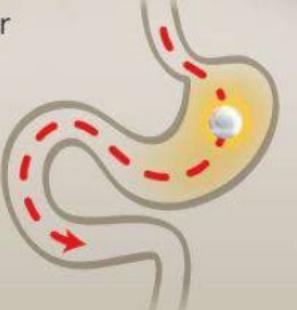






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ANATOMY OF A GREAT GRILLED CHEESE

BREAD Choose whatever kind of bread you like, so long as it's good quality and sliced ½-inch thick. This thickness lets the cheese melt completely while the bread retains some chewiness beneath the grilled crunch.

CHEESE Grate rather than slice hard cheeses for consistent coverage and even melting. (Grated cheese also helps avoid overdoing it on the cheese calories.) Crumble, chop, or thinly slice soft cheeses. For extra creaminess when using drier

varieties (such as blue or aged goat cheese), spread a little cream cheese on the sandwich too.

ADD-INS A couple of extra fillings can take a grilled-cheese sandwich to the next level, but note we say "a couple"—stick to

just two. Overfilled sandwiches can be messy or taste muddled.

OIL OR BUTTER Brush melted butter (the salted kind) or oil directly onto both sides of the assembled sandwich before adding to the skillet. (A brush works better than a knife.) Lightly butter right up to the crust line so the bread crisps evenly without turning greasy or soggy.



technique

Provolone and Leek Greens on Country Sourdough

Serves 4 | 30 minutes or fewer

Sautéed leek tops do double-duty in these sandwiches, giving them a sweet, oniony flavor and a tender crunch.

- 3 Tbs. melted butter, trans fat-free margarine, or olive oil, divided
- 2 cups thinly sliced leek tops (green parts only)
- 8 slices country sourdough bread
- 6 oz. grated Provolone cheese
- 2 roasted red bell peppers, halved, optional
- 1 | Heat 1 tsp. melted butter in large skillet over medium heat. Add leeks, and season with salt, if desired. Cover, reduce heat to medium-low, and cook 7 to 10 minutes, or until tender. Set aside.
- 2 Brush 4 slices bread with half of remaining melted butter, and set butter side down on baking sheet. Divide Provolone among bread slices, and layer each with one-quarter of leek mixture and 1 red bell pepper half

(if using). Cover with remaining bread slices. Brush sandwich tops with remaining melted butter.

3 | Heat large skillet or griddle over medium-low heat. Cook sandwiches in skillet 4 minutes, or until browned and crisp. Flip, and cook 3 minutes more, or until second side is browned.

PER SANDWICH 520 cal; 22 g prot; 21 g total fat (13 g sat fat); 56 g carb; 57 mg chol; 845 mg sod; 3 g fiber; 4 g sugars



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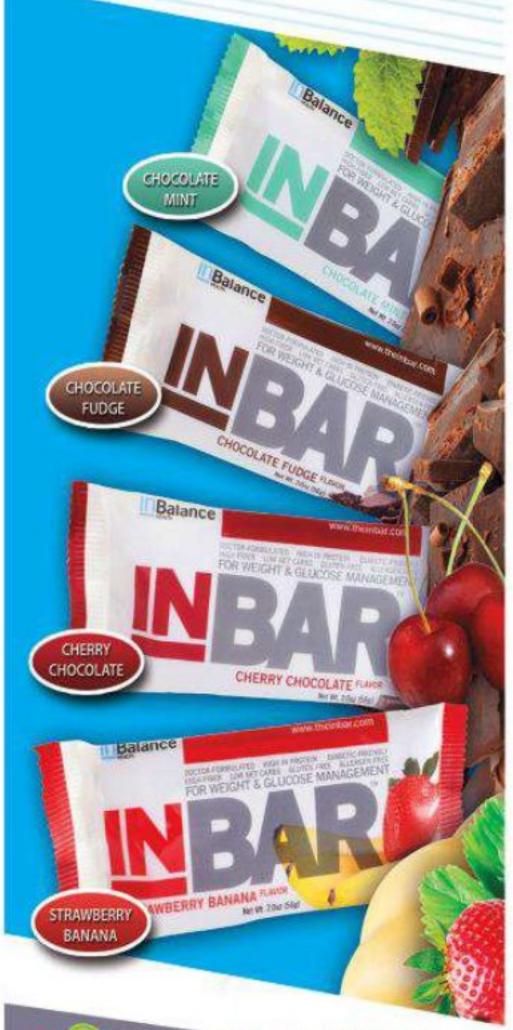
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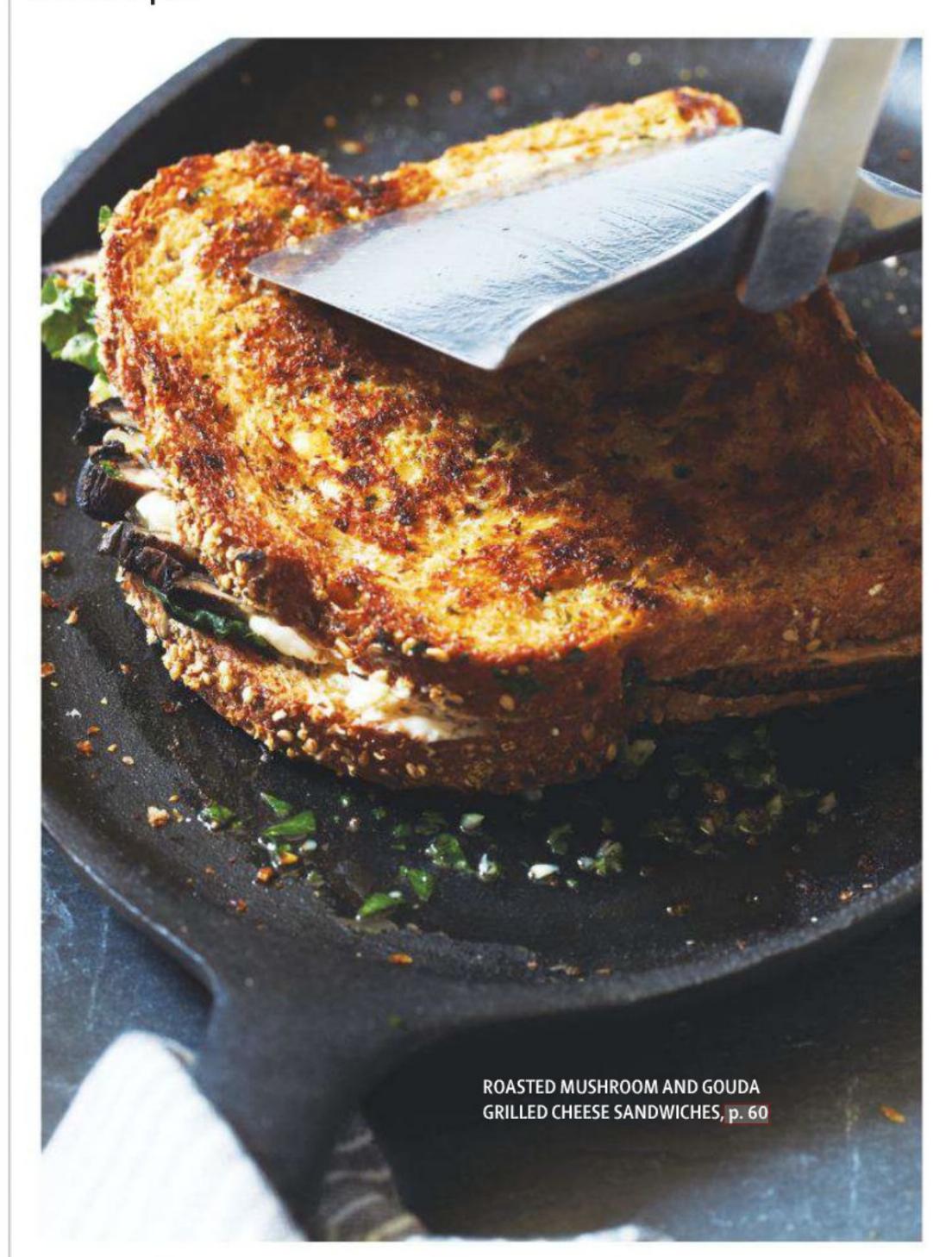
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technique



DON'T FORGET TO PRESS!

Once the first side of your grilled cheese is cooked, gently press the sandwich in the pan before flipping it over. This helps the fillings stick together and gets the outside crisp by bringing more bread surface in contact with the hot pan. Press once more before serving.

PARTY SAMPLER

Even if you have only one skillet, you can still invite friends over for a grilled-cheese party. Set out fillings so that guests can assemble their own sandwiches, and assign one person to handle the skillet(s) on the stove. Then, once a sandwich has been grilled, cut it into quarters, squares, or fingers to allow everyone to taste everyone else's combinations.



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technique

Roasted Mushroom and Gouda Grilled-Cheese Sandwiches

Serves 4 | 30 minutes or fewer Hearty roasted and sliced portobello mushrooms make these sandwiches particularly satisfying.

- 2 large portobello mushrooms, stemmed
- 2 Tbs. prepared balsamic vinaigrette
- 8 tsp. melted butter, trans fat-free margarine, or olive oil, divided
- 2 Tbs. finely chopped parsley
- 3 cloves garlic, minced (1 Tbs.)
- 8 slices whole-grain or country white bread
- 3 oz. grated Gouda cheese or vegan cheese shreds, such as Daiya
- 1 cup arugula
- 1 | Preheat oven to 350°F. Brush mushrooms with vinaigrette, place on baking sheet, and bake 15 minutes, turning once. Slice into ¼-inch-thick strips.
- 2 Stir together butter, parsley, and garlic in bowl. Brush 4 bread slices with half of butter mixture, and set butter side down on baking sheet.
- 3 | Sprinkle Gouda among bread slices on baking sheet. Top with mushroom strips, then arugula. Cover with remaining 4 bread slices. Brush sandwich tops with remaining butter mixture.
- 4 Heat large skillet or griddle over medium-low heat. Cook sandwiches in skillet 4 minutes, or until browned and crisp. Flip, and cook 3 minutes more, or until second side is browned.

PER SANDWICH 397 cal; 13 g prot; 19 g total fat (9 g sat fat); 45 g carb; 45 mg chol; 806 mg sod; 3 g fiber; 11 g sugars

Blue Cheese, Radicchio, and Fig Sandwiches

Serves 4 | 30 minutes or fewer
If you can find fresh figs, by all means
slice them and substitute for the jam in
these sandwiches.

- 3 oz. crumbled blue cheese
- 3 oz. reduced-fat cream cheese
- 8 slices sprouted whole-grain bread
- 8 tsp. melted butter, trans fat-free margarine, or olive oil, divided

- 4 Tbs. fig jam
- 1 cup thinly sliced radicchio or Belgian endive
- 1 | Mash blue cheese and cream cheese together in small bowl, leaving some blue cheese chunks. Set aside.
- 2 Brush 4 slices bread with half of butter, and set butter side down on baking sheet. Spread each slice with 1 Tbs. jam, and sprinkle with ¼ cup radicchio. Spread remaining 4 slices bread with blue cheese mixture, and set on top of radicchio. Brush sandwich tops with remaining melted butter.
- 3 | Heat large skillet or griddle over medium-low heat. Cook sandwiches in skillet 4 minutes, or until browned and crisp. Flip, and cook 3 minutes more, or until second side is browned.

PER SANDWICH 419 cal; 15 g prot; 20 g total fat (12 g sat fat); 48 g carb; 52 mg chol; 607 mg sod; 6 g fiber; 17 g sugars

Camembert Caprese Grilled-Cheese Sandwiches

Serves 4 | 30 minutes or fewer Fresh basil and tomatoes bring out the lighter side of Camembert.

- 8 slices rye or sourdough bread
- 8 tsp. melted butter, trans fat-free margarine, or olive oil, divided
- 6 oz. Camembert cheese, thinly sliced
- 2 large tomatoes, thinly sliced
- 1 cup large fresh basil leaves
- 1 Brush 4 slices bread with half of melted butter, and set butter side down on baking sheet.
- 2 Divide Camembert among bread slices on baking sheet. Top with tomato slices, then basil, and cover with remaining 4 slices bread. Brush sandwich tops with remaining melted butter.
- 3 Heat large skillet or griddle over medium-low heat. Cook sandwiches in skillet 4 minutes, or until browned and crisp. Flip, and cook 3 minutes more, or until second side is browned.

PER SANDWICH 380 cal; 15 g prot; 20 g total fat (12 g sat fat); 35 g carb; 51 mg chol; 817 mg sod; 5 g fiber; 5 g sugars



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There's a crop of thick-skinned, deep-hued beauties making its annual appearance in the produce section. Juicy pomegranates reach their peak in early fall and can be found whole and fresh from October to January, and then they're gone till next year. That gives you a few months to sprinkle the sweet-tart seeds into all sorts of fall and holiday dishes. And the rest of the year, you can get your pomegranate fix from frozen seeds, bottled juice, and pomegranate molasses.

> A handful of fresh fall recipes featuring the exotic red fruit

1 FOOD **5** WAYS POMEGRANATE

PHOTOGRAPHY Pornchai Mittongtare FOOD STYLING Lies Maggiore **PROP STYLING Robin Turk**

Pearl Barley with Roasted Squash, Pomegranate, and Pistachios

Serves 6

Pomegranate seeds add tiny bursts of sweet-tart juiciness when stirred into grain dishes.

- 3 Tbs. olive oil, divided
- 1 cup pearl barley
- 1½ lb. butternut squash, peeled, seeded, and cut into ½-inch x 1-inch chunks (4 cups)
- 1 small sweet onion, peeled and finely diced (1 cup)
- ½ tsp. red pepper flakes
- 2 Tbs. finely chopped parsley
- ½ cup pomegranate seeds
- 1/3 cup roasted pistachios

1 | Heat 1 Tbs. oil in medium saucepan over medium-high heat. Add barley, and cook 2 to 3 minutes, or until slightly toasted. Pour in 2½ cups water, and bring to a simmer. Cover, reduce heat to low, and cook 45 to 55 minutes, or until liquid is absorbed and grains are cooked. (If

barley is not completely cooked, add a little more water and continue simmering until tender.) Pour barley out onto cooking-spray-coated baking sheet, and let cool to room temperature. Season with salt and pepper, if desired.

2 | Preheat oven to 425°F. Line second baking sheet with parchment paper, or coat with cooking spray. Toss squash with 1 Tbs. oil on baking sheet until evenly coated, and season with salt and pepper, if desired. Roast 35 to 40 minutes, or until tender, stirring occasionally.

3 | Heat remaining 1 Tbs. oil in large nonstick skillet over medium-high heat. Add onion, and cook 7 to 9 minutes, or until translucent. Add red pepper flakes, and cook 1 minute more. Add barley, and cook 3 to 5 minutes, or until warmed through. Stir in roasted squash and parsley, and cook 2 minutes more. Remove from heat; stir in pomegranate seeds and pistachios. Serve warm or at room temperature.

PER 1½-CUP SERVING 273 cal; 6 g prot; 11 g total fat (1 g sat fat); 42 g carb; 0 mg chol; 9 mg sod; 10 g fiber; 5 g sugars



Kale Salad with Pomegranate and Maple Pecans

Serves 6

This hearty salad shows how well pomegranates go with other fall ingredients. Tuscan kale is also known as lacinato kale or dinosaur kale.

MAPLE PECANS

- ½ cup pecan pieces
- 1 Tbs. pure maple syrup
- 2 tsp. olive oil
- ½ tsp. salt
- ½ tsp. cayenne pepper VINAIGRETTE
- 2 Tbs. balsamic vinegar
- 2 Tbs. extra virgin olive oil
- 1 small shallot, peeled and finely minced (1½ Tbs.)

SALAD

- 1 12-oz. bunch Tuscan kale, deveined and sliced into ½-inch-thick ribbons (8 cups)
- 1 large red apple, cored, quartered, and thinly sliced (1½ cups)
- ½ cup pomegranate seeds
- 1½ oz. aged Gouda, thinly shaved with vegetable peeler (⅓ cup)
- 1 | To make Maple Pecans: Preheat oven to 350°F. Combine all ingredients in small bowl, and toss until well coated. Place on parchment-lined baking sheet, and bake 12 minutes, or until toasted and fragrant, stirring occasionally. Let cool to room temperature.
- 2 | To make Vinaigrette: whisk together all ingredients, and season with salt and pepper, if desired.
- 3 | To assemble Salad: Place kale in large bowl; gently massage 3 Tbs.
 Vinaigrette into leaves to ensure even coverage. Gently toss with apple and pomegranate seeds, and transfer to serving bowl. Top with Maple Pecans and shaved Gouda.

PER 1½-CUP SERVING 216 cal; 7 g prot; 14 g total fat (3 g sat fat); 20 g carb; 8 mg chol; 288 mg sod; 4 g fiber; 9 g sugars



Cornmeal Pancakes with Pomegranate-Pear Compote

Serves 6 | 30 minutes or fewer
This colorful compote is lightly sweetened
with pomegranate molasses, which can
be found in well-stocked supermarkets
and most Middle Eastern grocery stores.

COMPOTE

- 1 large Bartlett pear, peeled, cored, and cut into ½-inch dice (1½ cups)
- 1/2 cup pomegranate seeds
- 2 Tbs. pomegranate molasses PANCAKES
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 34 cup yellow cornmeal
- 3 Tbs. sugar
- ½ tsp. salt
- 1/2 tsp. baking soda

- 1/2 tsp. baking powder
- 1¼ cups plain kefir
- ½ cup thawed frozen corn, or drained canned corn
- 2 large eggs
- 1 | To make Compote: Stir together all ingredients in small bowl. Set aside.
- **2** | To make Pancakes: Whisk together flour, cornmeal, sugar, salt, baking soda, and baking powder in large bowl.
- 3 | Blend kefir, corn, and eggs in blender until smooth. Pour kefir mixture into flour mixture, and stir in until just combined. (It's OK if there are some small lumps.)
- 4 | Coat large nonstick skillet with cooking spray, and heat over medium heat. Scoop 3 Tbs. batter for each pancake, and cook 2 to 3 minutes per side,

or until golden. Repeat with remaining batter. Serve with Compote.

PER SERVING (3 PANCAKES AND ½ CUP COMPOTE) 274 cal; 8 g prot; 5 g total fat (<1 g sat fat); 51 g carb; 62 mg chol;

397 mg sod; 4 g fiber; 18 g sugars

Pomegranate and Tangerine Spritzer with Mint

Makes 1 spritzer | 30 minutes or fewer Tangerine and pomegranate juice give this drink an exotic, almost tropical taste. Slapping the mint leaf between your palms helps release the herb's aromatic oils.

- 1/3 cup pomegranate juice
- 1/3 cup tangerine juice
- ¼ cup club soda
- 1 large mint leaf

Fill large glass with ice cubes, and add juices and club soda. Slap mint leaf firmly between palms, and float on top of drink.

PER 9-OZ. SERVING 83 cal; <1 g prot; 0 g total fat (0 g sat fat); 20 g carb; 0 mg chol; 27 mg sod; <1 g fiber; 19 g sugars

Coconut Rice Pudding with Pomegranate Seeds and Coconut Chips

Serves 6

A sprinkling of pomegranate seeds can add jewel-bright color and sweet-tart flavor to desserts.

COCONUT CHIPS

- 2/3 cup large coconut flakes
- 1 tsp. pure maple syrup
- 1 pinch salt

PUDDING

- 1 14-oz. can light coconut milk
- ½ cup Arborio rice, rinsed and drained
- 3 Tbs. sugar
- 1/8 tsp. salt
- 1 1-inch piece vanilla bean
- ½ cup pomegranate seeds

1 | To make Coconut Chips: Preheat oven to 300°F, and line baking sheet with parchment paper, or coat with cooking spray. Toss coconut flakes with maple syrup and salt in medium bowl until well combined. Arrange mixture in single layer on prepared baking sheet, and bake 15 minutes, turning occasionally, or until flakes are deep brown. Let cool to room temperature. (Chips will crisp as they cool.)

2 | To make Pudding: Pour coconut milk into 4-cup measuring cup, and add water until liquid reaches 4 cups. Pour liquid into medium saucepan, and add Arborio rice, sugar, and salt. Slit vanilla bean in half, scrape vanilla seeds into saucepan, and add pod to saucepan. Bring mixture to a simmer over medium heat, stirring often, then reduce heat to medium-low. Cook 22 to 25 minutes, or until Arborio rice is soft and much of liquid is absorbed, but mixture is still loose. (It will thicken as it cools.) Remove and discard vanilla pod.

3 | Serve Pudding warm or chilled, topped with Coconut Chips and pomegranate seeds.

PER ½-CUP SERVING 214 cal; 2 g prot; 12 g total fat (10 g sat fat); 26 g carb; 0 mg chol; 88 mg sod; 2 g fiber; 10 g sugars

@ @ _____

Fiona Kennedy planted her pomegranate tree two years ago and is looking forward to picking her first ripe fruit this year.

BREAK OUT THE JEWELS

Releasing the gem-like seeds from a pomegranate's leathery skin and bitter pith is as easy as peeling an orange. Here's how:

CUT OFF THE FLOWER

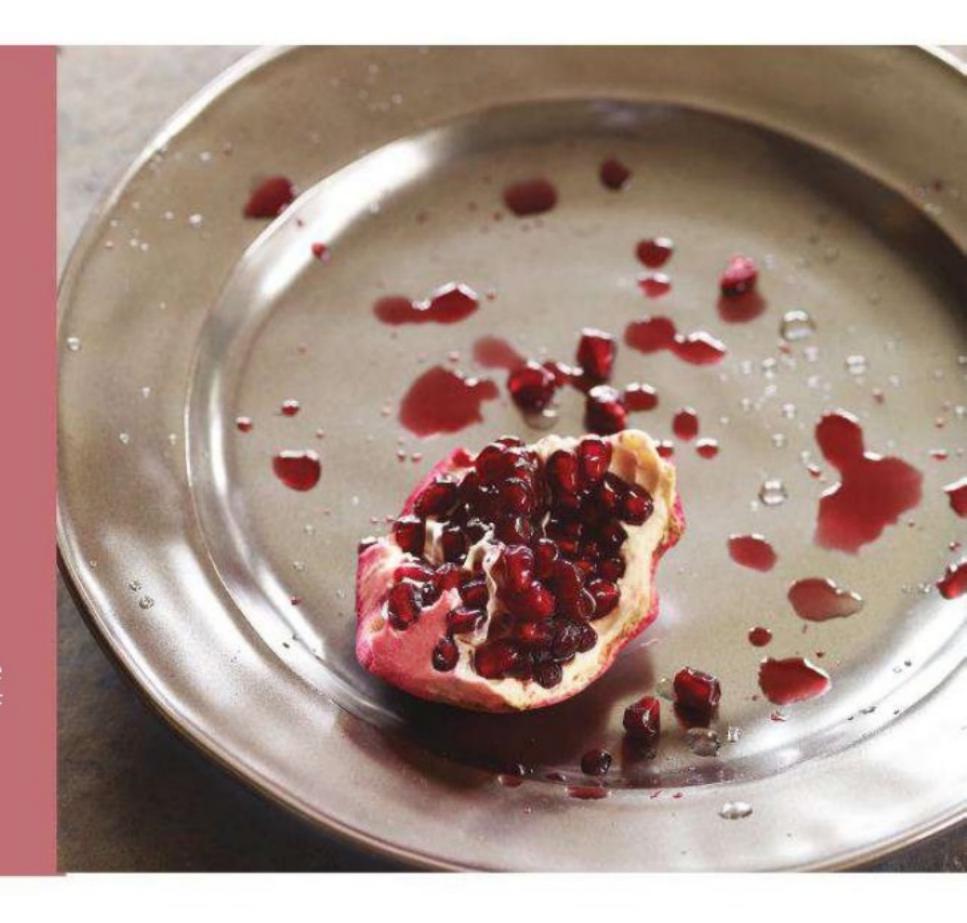
Trim the pointed end of the whole pomegranate so that some of the skin and pith are removed and seeds show through.

SCORE THE SKIN

Cut the skin in quarters the way you'd cut through the skin of an orange.

SUBMERGE POMEGRANATE

Place fruit in a large bowl of water before pulling the quarters apart. Discard skin and pith as you gently wiggle the seeds free. Doing this underwater allows small bits of bitter pith to float to the top and prevents pomegranate juice from going everywhere. (It stains!) Skim away the skin and pith, drain seeds, and eat or use in recipes.





VT READERS PICK TOP GROCERY FINDS FOR EVERY KIND OF SHOPPER

THE 100 CST

NOT ENOUGH TIME to go grocery shopping *and* scour the aisles for above-and-beyond buys? We hear you. That's why all us *VT* editors have been stuffing ourselves silly to find the tastiest veg items for you—whether you just ditched meat, have a house full of kids, or can't wait to bake your next batch of cookies (or, hey, all of the above). For this year's Foodie Awards, we nominated 100 products in 25 categories, matched them up with different personality types, and asked readers like you to vote for your favorites.

Grab this handy list the next time you restock your kitchen, and you'll soon be navigating the supermarket like a pro.

ILLUSTRATIONS Daniel Krall



YOU JUST KICKED THE MEAT HABIT— NOW IT'S TIME TO **VEG OUT**



QUICK COMFORT FOOD

READERS' PICK

Daiya Deliciously Dairy Free Fire-Roasted Vegetable Pizza An extra-crispy crust and just the right amount of melty Daiya make this dairy- and gluten-free pie a must for pizza lovers.

RUNNERS-UP

- Annie Chun's Udon Soup Bowl
- Evol Veggie Fajita Burrito + Guacamole
- Rising Moon Organics Butternut Squash Ravioli



MIGHTY GRAINS **READERS' PICK**

Bob's Red Mill Grains-of-Discovery **Organic Farro**

Great in soups and stews, this ancient Italian grain offers a nice change of pace from brown rice and quinoa. Think nutty, chewy, and perfectly hearty.

RUNNERS-UP

- Lotus Foods Organic



READERS' PICK

Amy's Black Bean Veggie Burger Meet your new emergency lunch: a smoky, spicy patty packed with black beans, veggies, and earthy grains. Just add a bun, or eat it on a bed of steamed kale.

RUNNERS-UP

- Gardein The Ultimate Beefless Sliders
- Hilary's Eat Well Adzuki Bean Burger
- MorningStar Farms Mediterranean Chickpea Burger

GOOF-PROOF TOFU & TEMPEH

READERS' PICK

Nasoya Organic Cubed Super Firm Tofu

Tofu-shy? No need to press the water from these firm-buttender cubes, ready to toss into stir-fries and salads.

RUNNERS-UP

- Lightlife Organic Smoky Tempeh Strips
- Turtle Island Foods Smoky Maple **Bacon Marinated Tempeh**
- Wildwood Organic SprouTofu Super Firm Cubed Tofu

CURRY SAUCES

READERS' PICK

Seeds of Change Certified Organic **Madras Curry Sauce** Add fresh veggies to this lightly spicy sauce, and you've got a no-stress curry that totally beats takeout.

RUNNERS-UP

- Curry Love Organic Caribbean Curry
- Maya Kaimal Indian Coconut **Curry Fresh Simmer Sauce**
- Tasty Bite Good Korma Cooking Sauce



YOU'VE GOT MOUTHS TO FEED AND NO TIME TO COOK



GRILLED-CHEESE ESSENTIALS

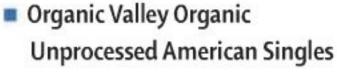
READERS' PICK

Kerrygold Dubliner 100% Natural Cheese

This Irish classic melts evenly and has a taste all its own slightly sharp like Cheddar, with a hint of Swiss-like nuttiness.

RUNNERS-UP

- Follow Your Heart Vegan
 Gourmet Cheddar Cheese
 Alternative Shreds
- Go Veggie! American Flavor Rice Vegan Slices



VEG MEATBALLS

READERS' PICK

Amy's Meatless Veggie Meatballs
For weeknight dinner in a jiffy,
combine spaghetti, tomato
sauce, and these plump,
stick-to-your-ribs meatballs
made with rice, tofu, quinoa,
and lentils.

RUNNERS-UP

- Gardein Classic Meatless
 Meatballs
- Nate's Zesty Italian Meatless Meatballs
- Quorn Meatless & Soy-Free Meatballs



NUT BUTTERS

READERS' PICK

Justin's Chocolate Hazelnut Butter Swap out sugary Nutella for this subtly sweet blend of hazelnuts and almonds, ideal for spreading on toast with sliced banana.

KID-FRIENDLY CEREALS

New Look, Same Great Taste!

RIGINAL

READERS' PICK

Santa Cruz

pricot Sauce

ORGANIC

BARBARAS

59

Only 59 Sugar

Justina.

all-natural

OUBLINER

MADE WITH ORGANI

Barbara's Bakery Puffins Original
Not just for kids, these beloved
breakfast pillows stay crunchy
and satisfying afloat in your
bowl. They're a solid source of
fiber too.

RUNNERS-UP

- Erewhon Organic Corn Flakes
- Kashi Autumn Wheat Organic Whole Wheat Biscuits
- Nature's Path Organic Heritage Bites

APPLESAUCES

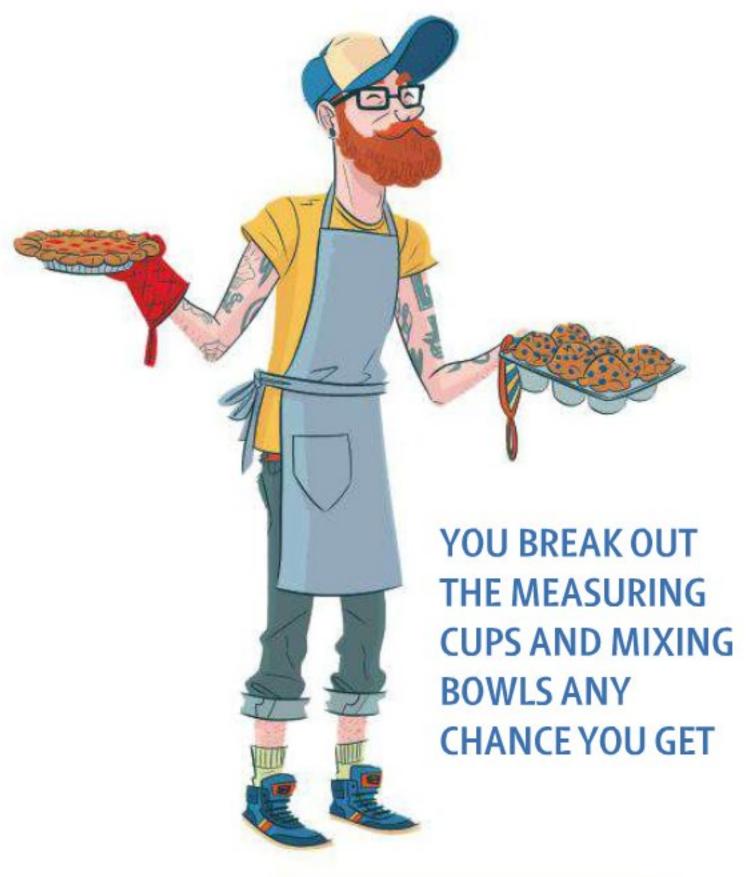
READERS' PICK

Santa Cruz Organic Apple Apricot Sauce

A touch of apricot perks up this sweet treat, which comes in both large jars and small cups for easier snacking on the fly.

RUNNERS-UP

- Earth's Best Kidz Organic Apple Sauce
- GoGo Squeez Organic Apple Cinnamon Applesauce on the Go
- Vermont Village Organic Mixed Berry Applesauce







VANILLA EXTRACT

READERS' PICK

Vanilla Extract
Just a few drops of this
top-notch vanilla add aromatic
oomph to everything from
oatmeal to pancakes.

RUNNERS-UP

- Frontier Fair Trade Organic
 Vanilla Extract
- Nielsen-Massey Organic
 Madagascar Bourbon Pure
 Vanilla Extract
- Penzeys Spices Double Strength Pure Vanilla Extract

BUTTER & BUTTER ALTERNATIVES

READERS' PICK

Earth Balance Vegan Buttery Sticks
These buttery-tasting sticks
are straight up foolproof for
veganizing a favorite cookie
recipe (or, really, anything that
calls for butter).

RUNNERS-UP

- Kerrygold Naturally Softer Pure Irish Butter
- Organic Valley Unsalted Cultured Butter
- Plugrá European Style Unsalted
 Butter

BAKING CHOCOLATE

READERS' PICK

Ghirardelli Semi-Sweet Chocolate Baking Chips

When you need quality chocolate chips pronto, look for these affordable, smoothas-can-be morsels at any mainstream supermarket.

RUNNERS-UP

- Enjoy Life Semi-Sweet Chocolate Mega Chunks
- Green & Black's Organic72% Baking Chocolate
- Scharffen Berger 70% Cacao
 Bittersweet Dark Chocolate
 Baking Bar

ALL-PURPOSE FLOUR

READERS' PICK

Vinbleached All-Purpose Flour
This organic winner
consistently delivers light
and fluffy baked goodies.
Just as sweet: King Arthur
Flour is a 100 percent
employee-owned company.

RUNNERS-UP

- Bob's Red Mill All Purpose Gluten Free Baking Flour
- Gold Medal Unbleached,
 Enriched & Presifted Organic
 All-Purpose Flour
- Hodgson Mill Organic
 Unbleached All Purpose
 Naturally White Flour

SHORTCUT PASTRY

READERS' PICK

Organic Fillo Dough
Stash these flaky
pastry sheets in
the freezer, and
you'll be ready
to make luscious
strudels and
baklavas whenever
the mood strikes.

RUNNERS-UP

- Dufour Pastry
 Kitchens Classic
 Puff Pastry
- Immaculate Baking
 Co. Ready-to-Bake Pie Crusts
- Wholly Wholesome Bake at Home Organic Pie Dough



YOU SAMPLE ALL THE HOTTEST SIPS AND NIBBLES

CULTURED VEGGIES

READERS' PICK

Bubbies Pure Kosher Dills Naturally fermented without vinegar or preservatives, these refrigerated pickles provide a healthful dose of probiotics with each cool, crisp snap.

RUNNERS-UP

- Farmhouse Culture Naturally Probiotic Ginger Beet Kraut
- Mother in Law's Kimchi, Vegan Napa Cabbage
- Wildbrine Madras Curry & Cauliflower Sauerkraut Salad

BEVERAGES WITH BENEFITS

READERS' PICK

Zico Pure Premium Coconut Water, Natural

Forget sports drinks—this not-too-sweet alternative tastes light and refreshing. Try freezing in ice cube trays and adding to green smoothies instead of ice.

RUNNERS-UP

- GT's Enlightened Organic Raw Kombucha, Multi-Green
- KeVita Lemon Ginger Sparkling **Probiotic Drink**
- Mamma Chia Organic Blackberry Hibiscus Vitality Beverage

POWER SNACKS

READERS' PICK

Eden Organic Wild Berry Mix Nuts, Seeds & Berries This energy-packed snack contains none of the added salt, sugar, or sulfites often found in trail mix, but has plenty of chewy blueberries and crunchy pumpkin seeds.

RUNNERS-UP

- Cruncha Ma-Me Edamame Veggie Snack, Lightly Seasoned
- Now Real Food Crunchy Clusters **Nut & Berry**
- Taste of Nature Exotics Himalayan Goji Summit Organic Food Bar

COCONUT OIL

READERS' PICK

Spectrum Organic Virgin Coconut Oil

Add subtle coconut flavor to sautéed veggies and more with this unrefined coconut oil. Rich in lauric acid, it may also help increase "good" HDL cholesterol.

RUNNERS-UP

- Artisana 100% Organic Raw Extra Virgin Coconut Oil
- Ojio 100% Organic Extra Virgin Coconut Oil
- Ziggy Marley Coco'Mon Original Cold-Pressed Coconut Oil

RAW GOODIES READERS' PICK

Two Moms in the Raw Almond Butter Cacao Truffles We love the delicate dusting of antioxidant-rich cacao on these chocolaty bites. Pop one for dessert or an energizing snack.

RUNNERS-UP

- Brad's Raw Leafy Kale, Naked
- Go Raw Pumpkin Super Chips
- Navitas Naturals Goji-Mulberry-Goldenberry Trail Mix





RUNNERS-UP

- Cowgirl Creamery Mt Tam
- Cypress Grove Chevre Humboldt Fog
- Point Reyes Farmstead Cheese
 Company Original Blue

VEGAN-FRIENDLY WINE

READERS' PICK

Cabernet Sauvignon
Avoiding wine filtered
with animal products?
California-based Vegan
Vine makes four tasty
varieties, but this bright,
fruity Cab won out.

RUNNERS-UP

- Cline California Zinfandel
- Frey Vineyards Organic Chardonnay
- Girasole Vineyards Pinot Blanc



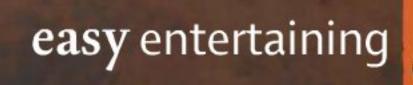
FROZEN TREATS

READERS' PICK

So Delicious Dairy Free Almond Milk Butter Pecan Frozen Dessert Nobody will guess this creamy, buttery-rich frozen dessert uses almond milk as its base. Pick up two pints they'll go fast.

RUNNERS-UP

- Ciao Bella Blackberry
 Cabernet Sorbet
- Luna & Larry's Organic Coconut Bliss Mocha Maca Crunch Non-Dairy Frozen Dessert
- Three Twins Organic Ice Cream, Sea Salted Caramel



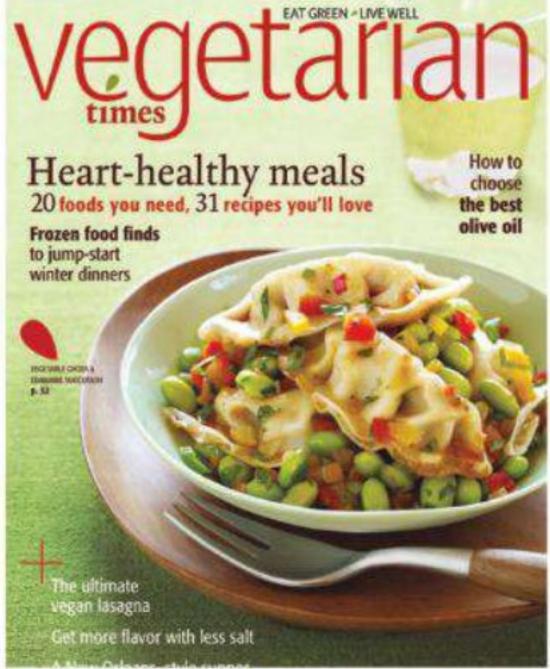
RECIPES BY Abigail Wolfe

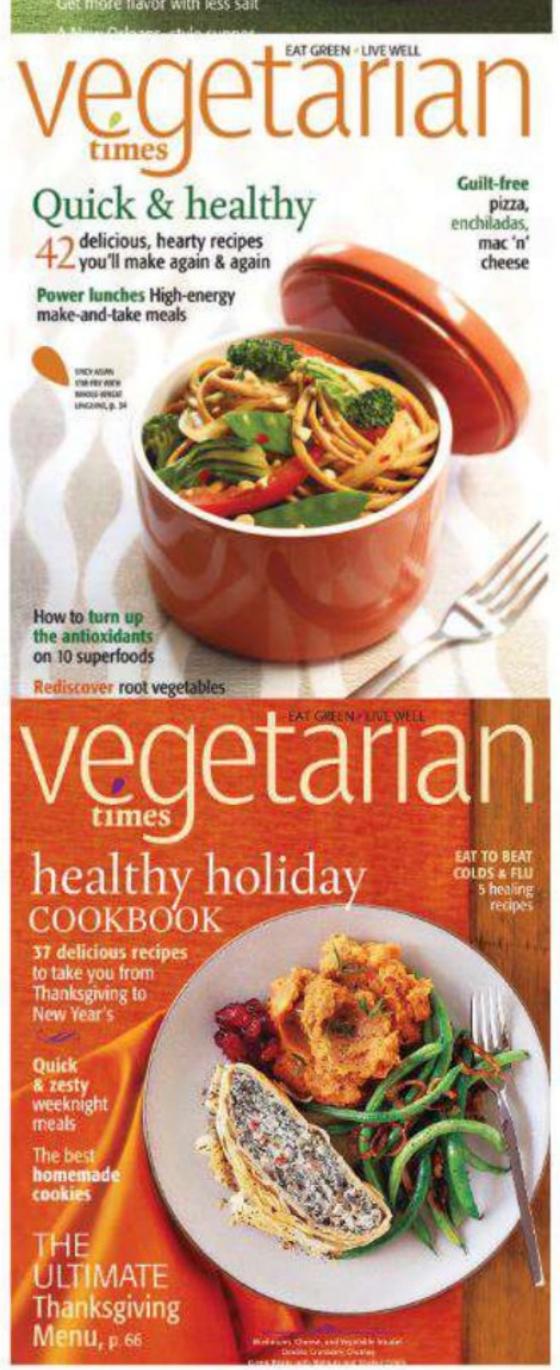
SOUP INVITE GUESTS OVER FOR A COZY FEAST OF HOT, HEARTY SOUPS

PHOTOGRAPHY Beatriz Da Costa

FOOD STYLING Susie Theodorou

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A soup party can be

anything—a casual buffet for a crowd, an intimate get-together for friends served family style, even a take-along Saturday night feast for a weekend away. And all you need to make it happen are a couple of pots and some killer recipes that'll wow guests with wonderful aromas the moment they walk through the door.



easy entertaining

Tuscan Kale and Carrot Soup

Serves 8 | 30 minutes or fewer
This recipe calls for steaming the kale in
a steamer insert placed over the soup's
brothy base to keep the greens brightly
colored and crisp-tender.

- 2 bunches multicolored carrots, cut into 1-inch chunks (4 cups)
- 4 cups low-sodium vegetable broth
- 1 15-oz. can diced tomatoes in juice
- 2 12-oz. bunches Tuscan kale, thinly sliced

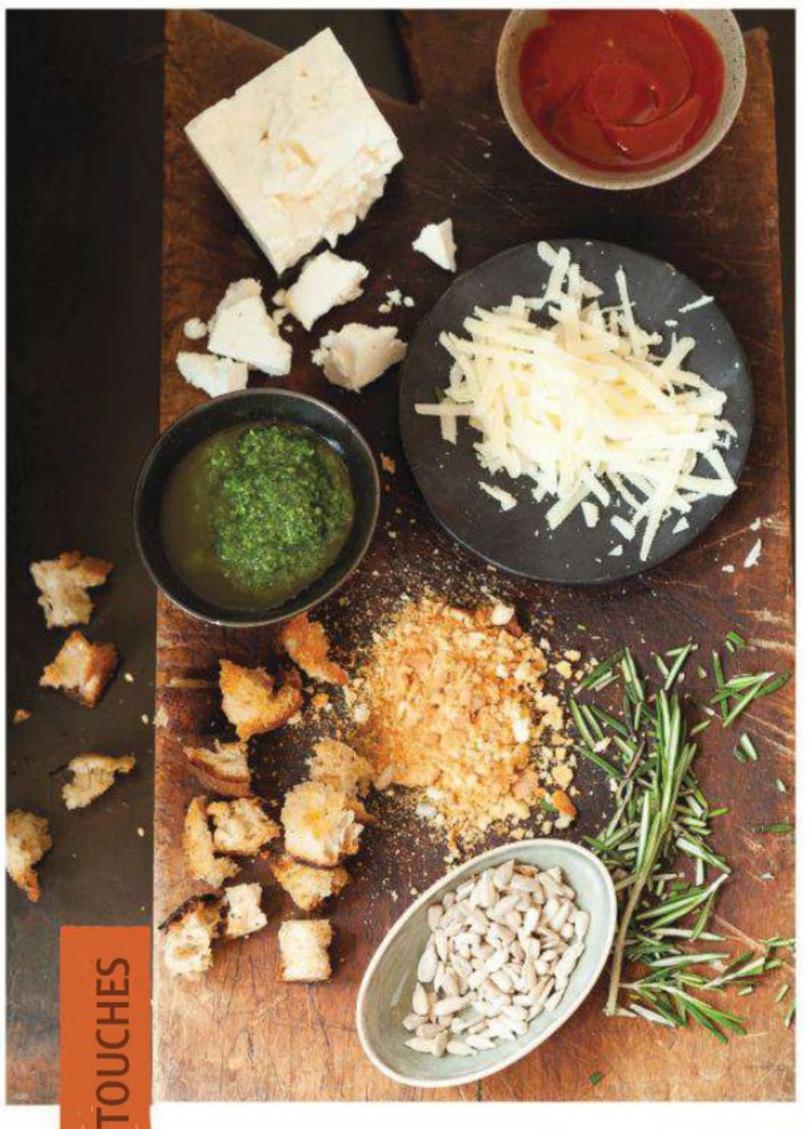
- 4 cup chopped fresh basil, plus 6 whole leaves, divided
- 2 Tbs. chopped chives, plus handful whole chives, divided
- 1 15-oz. can white beans, rinsed and drained
- 1 Tbs. balsamic vinegar
- 1 | Bring carrots, broth, tomatoes with juice, and 2 cups water to a simmer in large stockpot with steamer insert over medium heat.

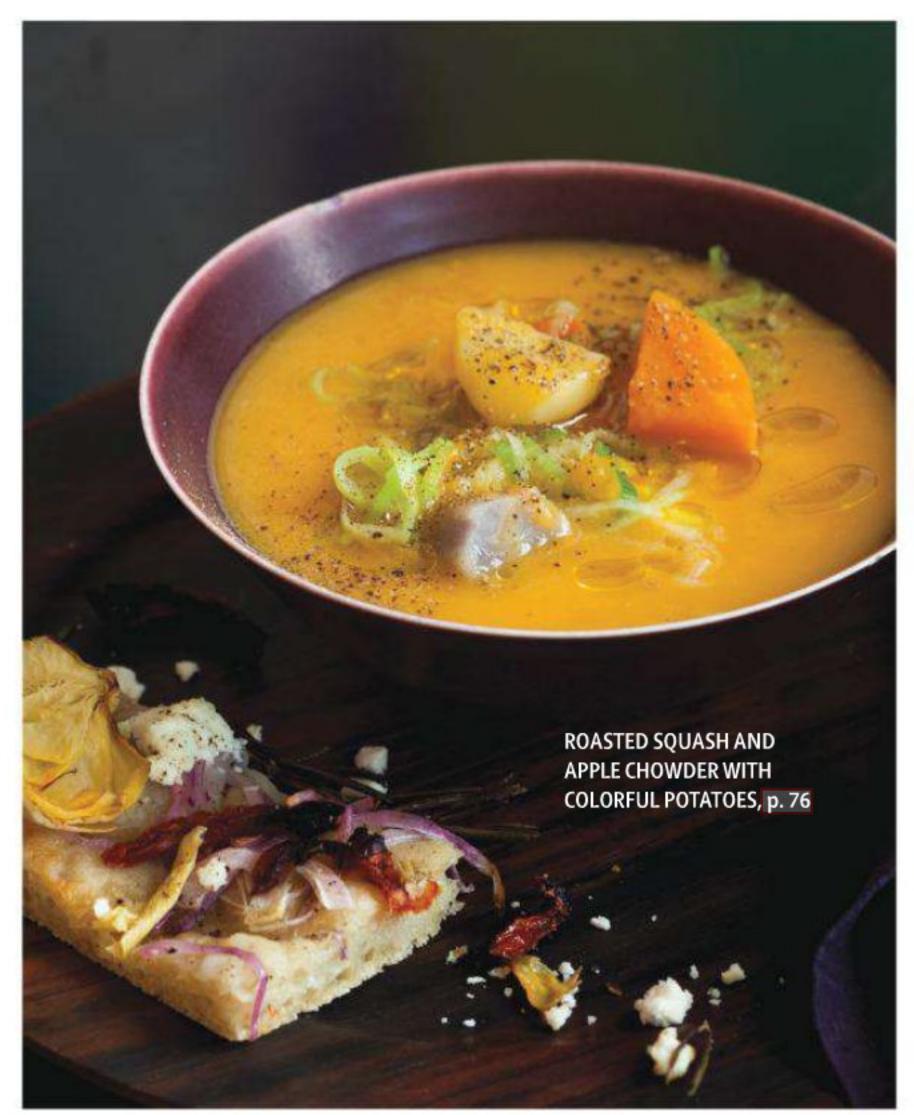
2 | Place kale, whole basil leaves, and whole chives in steamer insert. Set steamer inside stockpot, cover, and steam 5 to 7 minutes, using tongs to stir halfway through. Remove and discard basil and chives. Add kale, beans, and vinegar to soup, and return to a simmer. Season with salt and pepper, if desired. Stir in chopped basil and chives just before serving.

PER 1¼-CUP SERVING 128 cal; 7 g prot; <1 g total fat (<1 g sat fat); 25 g carb; 0 mg chol; 358 mg sod; 8 g fiber; 6 g sugars

G







Let guests customize their soups with a selection of toppings and seasonings. Try these:

- Grated or crumbled cheese
- Croutons or pita chips
- Toasted breadcrumbs
- Chopped fresh herbs or green onions
- Crème fraîche or sour cream
- Hot sauce
- Chopped nuts
- Sunflower or pumpkin seeds
- Prepared pesto
- Grated lemon zest
- Chopped hard-boiled eggs



Artichoke and Sun-Dried Tomato Focaccia

Makes 16 slices

Be careful not to overbake this veggieloaded flat bread—the finished color should be a pale golden brown.

- 3 cups all-purpose flour, plus more for sprinkling
- 2 tsp. instant yeast
- 1 tsp. sugar
- 1 tsp. salt
- 2 Tbs. olive oil, plus more for coating pan and drizzling over focaccia
- 1 Tbs. fresh rosemary leaves
- 1 small red onion, halved and thinly sliced
- 4 marinated artichoke hearts, sliced
- 5 sun-dried tomatoes in oil, thinly sliced
- 3 oz. soft goat cheese

Kosher salt or coarse sea salt for sprinkling, optional

- and 1½ cups room temperature water in bowl of stand mixer. Let stand 20 minutes. Add remaining 1½ cups flour and salt, and beat on low speed with paddle attachment until dough comes together. (It should have consistency of thick pancake batter. If not, add up to ½ cup more water.) Add 2 Tbs. oil, increase speed to medium, and beat 15 minutes, or until dough becomes elastic and forms ball around paddle. Scrape dough from paddle, cover bowl, and let stand 2½ to 3 hours, or until doubled in size.
- 2 | Grease large, rimmed baking sheet with oil. Scoop dough onto prepared baking sheet, and sprinkle generously with flour. Press dough with hands to cover baking sheet. Cover, and let rise 1 hour.
- 3 | Preheat oven to 450°F with oven rack in lowest position. Sprinkle dough with rosemary, then scatter with onion, artichokes, and sun-dried tomatoes. Dot with goat cheese, and sprinkle with kosher salt (if using). Drizzle with oil.
- 4 | Bake 13 to 15 minutes, or until crust is browned around edges. Cool at least 20 minutes, then cut into 16 slices.

 PER SLICE 135 cal; 4 g prot; 4 g total fat (1 g sat fat); 20 g carb; 3 mg chol; 182 mg sod; 1 g fiber; <1 g sugars

Roasted Squash and Apple Chowder with Colorful Potatoes

Serves 8

Puréed roasted butternut squash provides the creamy base for a hearty chowder. If making the chowder ahead, prepare the recipe through step 3, then assemble and reheat just before serving.

- 2 lb. butternut squash, peeled and cut into 3/4-inch chunks (6 cups), divided
- 3 medium apples, peeled and diced (3 cups), divided
- 2 large leeks, white parts cut into 1-inch chunks (1 cup), plus ½ cup thinly sliced leek greens, divided
- 1 Tbs. olive oil
- 1 Tbs. pure maple syrup
- 1 lb. multicolored potatoes, peeled and cut into ¾-inch chunks
- ½ cup apple juice
- 1 Tbs. apple cider vinegar
- 1 | Preheat oven to 350°F. Coat baking sheet with cooking spray.
- 2 | Combine 5 cups butternut squash chunks, 2 cups diced apple, leek whites, oil, and maple syrup in large bowl, and season with salt and pepper, if desired. Spread squash mixture in single layer on prepared baking sheet, and roast 30 minutes, or until tender, stirring occasionally.
- 3 | Cook potato chunks and remaining 1 cup butternut squash in boiling, salted water 5 to 7 minutes, or until just tender. Drain, and set aside.
- 4 | Purée roasted vegetables in blender until smooth. Add purée and apple juice to large soup pot with 4 cups water. Whisk in vinegar, and heat over medium heat. Season with salt and pepper, if desired. Add boiled potatoes and squash, remaining 1 cup diced apple, and leek greens, and simmer 5 minutes, or until hot.

PER 1%-CUP SERVING 162 cal; 3 g prot; 2 g total fat (<1 g sat fat); 36 g carb; 0 mg chol; 12 mg sod; 4 g fiber; 12 g sugars

G

Pear-Blackberry Semolina Cake

Serves 12

Semolina is a coarsely ground flour made from durum wheat that's often used to make pasta and gnocchi. Here, it gives a simple stir-and-bake cake a lovely golden color and tender texture. For make-ahead ease, prepare the cake batter, pour it into the pan, and refrigerate. Pop the pan into the oven when you sit down to eat, and the cake will still be warm when it's time for dessert.

- 3 pears, peeled and diced (3 cups)
- 2 Tbs. lemon juice
- 1 tsp. grated lemon zest
- 34 cup plus 1 Tbs. light brown sugar, divided
- ¼ cup sugar
- 2 large eggs, lightly beaten
- 1 tsp. almond extract
- ¼ cup low-fat yogurt
- 1½ cups semolina flour
- 2 tsp. baking powder
- ¼ tsp. salt
- ¼ tsp. cinnamon
- 2 cups fresh or frozen blackberries
- 1 12-oz. jar seedless blackberry jam Whipped cream, for garnish, optional
- 1 | Preheat oven to 350°F. Spray 11- x 8-inch baking pan with cooking spray.
- 2 | Combine pears, lemon juice, zest, and 1 Tbs. brown sugar in bowl; set aside.
- 3 | Whisk together ¾ cup brown sugar, sugar, eggs, almond extract, and yogurt in large bowl. Sift in flour, baking powder, salt, and cinnamon, then stir until just combined. Fold in pear mixture. Pour batter into prepared pan, and dot with blackberries. Bake 20 to 25 minutes, or until golden brown and springy on top. Cool 10 minutes on baking rack.
- **4** | Meanwhile, warm jam with 3 Tbs. water in small saucepan over low heat, whisking until smooth.
- **5** | To serve, slice warm cake into 12 pieces. Drizzle each slice with blackberry jam sauce, and garnish with whipped cream (if using).

PER SLICE 266 cal; 5 g prot; 1 g total fat (<1 g sat fat); 61 g carb; 31 mg chol; 160 mg sod; 3 g fiber; 41 g sugars

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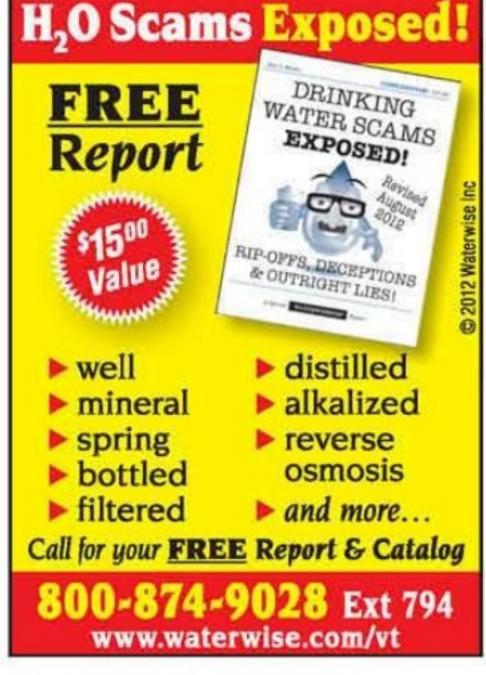


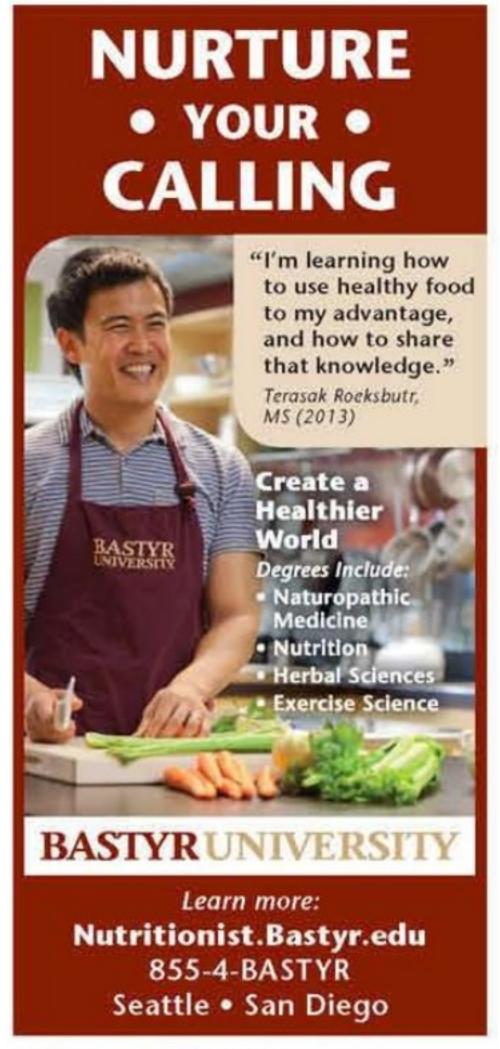


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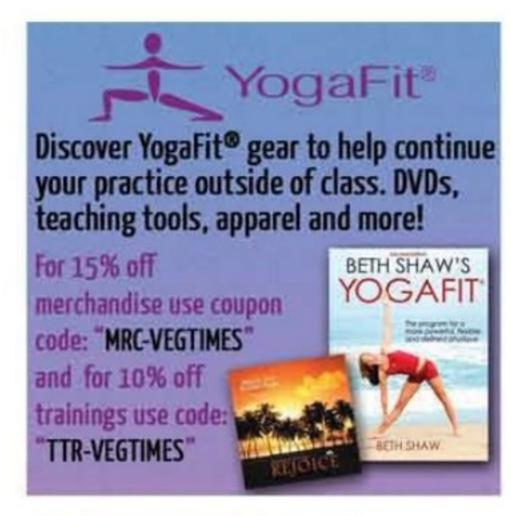


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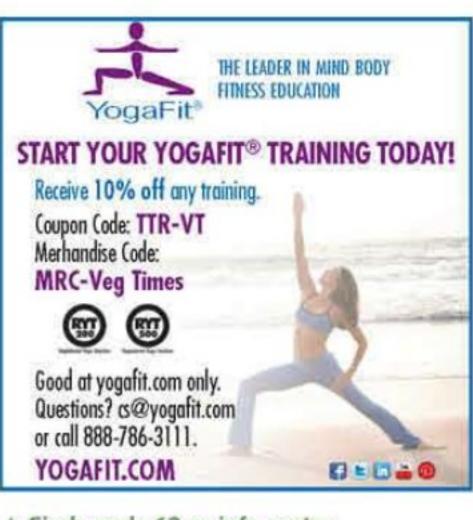


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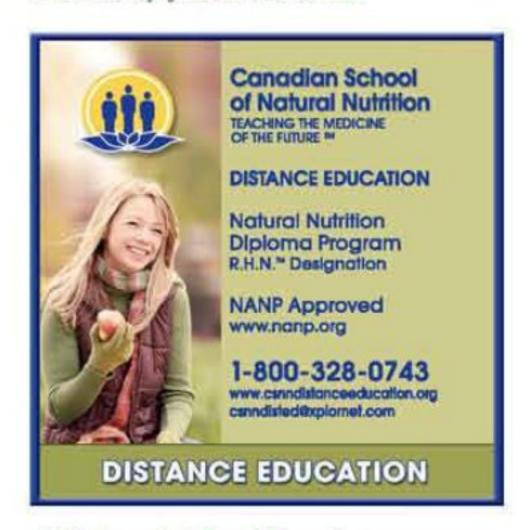


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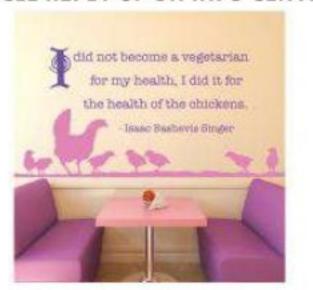




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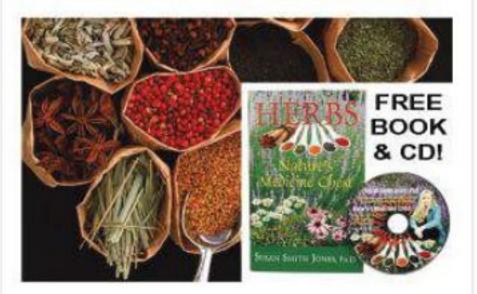
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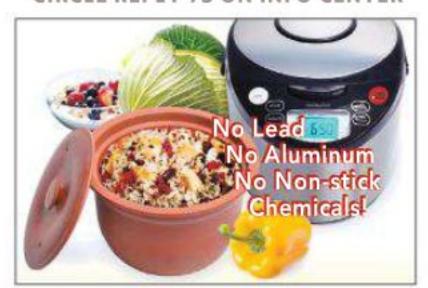
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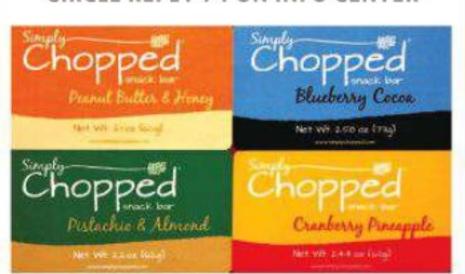
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AUTUMN SPLENDOR

CONTINUED FROM p. 29

Mustard Green Caesar Salad with Baked Tofu

Serves 4 | 30 minutes or fewer Capers stand in for anchovies, and tahini makes the dressing thick and creamy in this veganized Caesar.

- 2 Tbs. capers
- 2 cloves garlic, coarsely chopped
- ¼ cup tahini
- 1/4 cup fresh lemon juice
- 2 Tbs. nutritional yeast flakes
- 1 tsp. Dijon mustard
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 12 cups mustard greens, torn into bite-size pieces
- 1 6-oz. pkg. Italian-flavored baked tofu, cubed

Pulse capers and garlic in blender or food processor until finely chopped.

Add tahini, lemon juice, nutritional yeast, mustard, salt, and ¼ cup water; blend until completely smooth. Toss dressing with mustard greens and tofu in bowl. PER 2-CUP SERVING 230 cal; 18 g prot;

13 g total fat (2 g sat fat); 14 g carb; 0 mg chol; 504 mg sod; 6 g fiber; 2 g sugars 🖤

Butternut Salad with Cranberry Vinaigrette

Serves 4 | 30 minutes or fewer This salad previews late fall flavors. To speed things up, look for peeled butternut squash cubes in your supermarket's refrigerated section.

- 1½ lb. butternut squash, peeled and diced
- 1/2 cup dried cranberries, divided
- 2 Tbs. balsamic vinegar
- 2 Tbs. olive oil
- 2 tsp. Dijon mustard
- 1 clove garlic, minced (1 tsp.)
- 1/8 tsp. salt

- 1/2 cup slivered almonds
- 1 10-oz. pkg. mixed baby greens
- 1 | Steam butternut squash cubes 7 to 10 minutes, or until tender.
- 2 Place ¼ cup dried cranberries in bowl, and cover with boiling water. Steep 2 minutes, then drain. Transfer to blender with vinegar, oil, mustard, garlic, salt, and ¼ cup water. Blend until very smooth.
- 3 | Toast almond slivers in small skillet 3 to 5 minutes over medium heat, shaking pan often. Set aside.
- 4 Toss greens with dressing in large bowl. Top with warm squash, almonds, and remaining ¼ cup cranberries.

PER SALAD (2 CUPS GREENS AND 1 CUP SQUASH)

265 cal; 5 g prot; 14 g total fat (2 g sat fat); 34 g carb; 0 mg chol; 173 mg sod; 6 g fiber; 15 g sugars 🖤 🎯 🌶

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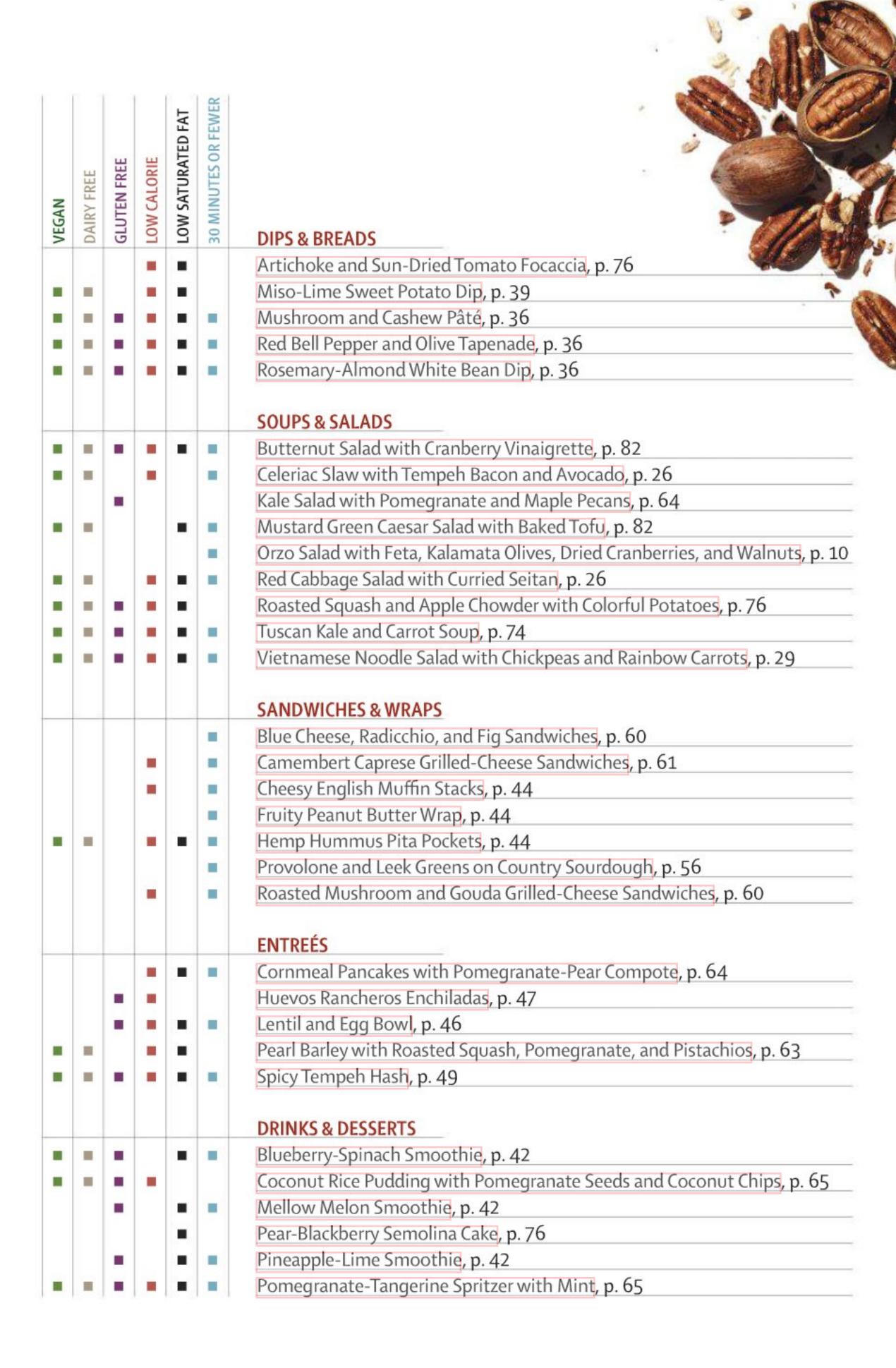
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taste buds

What are the BFFs of the food world? Here, chefs and other foodies share their favorite culinary pairings.

CHRIS COONEY AND JON TEDD

are creator/producer and host (respectively) of The Vegan Zombie online cooking show, and coauthors of The Vegan Zombie— Cook & Survive, available this fall.

PARSNIPS + ANCHO CHILE PEPPER Asa in th

As a festive alternative to potatoes

in the fall, we like to use parsnips a delicious in-season root vegetable.

We do a medium dice on peeled parsnips, coat with olive oil, and add a pinch of sea salt. Then we roast in

the oven at 400°F until golden brown. This is the best way to bring out the parsnips' sweetness.

To complement the parsnips' sweet flavor, we're partial to the smoky taste of ancho chile. We grind up an ancho chile in a spice grinder to a fine powder, which we sprinkle on the roasted parsnips.

You can serve with anything that goes well with mashed potatoes, such as collard greens, Brussels sprouts, or kale.





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Nº 36



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