

Featured Recipes

Guest Chef: Cathy Fisher

Cathy has worked with the McDougall Program since 2006 in a variety of capacities, including working at programs, writing and editing, and assisting with the Diet and Multiple Sclerosis study with Oregon Health and Science University. Most recently, she has been teaching cooking classes for the 10-Day residential McDougall Program in

Santa Rosa, CA. Cathy returned to school in 2007 to study nutrition, and has been joyfully eating a healthy, plant-based diet since 1999.

Corn Chowder

This easy-to-make corn chowder is deliciously sweet, and uses no dairy, butter, or salt. Fresh rosemary is a nice compliment to the sweetness of the corn and the hearty vegetables.

1/4 cup water

- 1 yellow onion, diced
- 4 cups water
- 3 ribs celery, diced
- 2 carrots, diced
- 3 Yukon potatoes, skin on, diced
- 3 ears of corn kernels (or 2 10-oz. bags of frozen)
- 1 cup diced mushrooms (about 8 mushrooms)
- 1 cup non-dairy milk (soy, rice, almond, etc.)
- 1 ¹/₂ teaspoons garlic powder
- 1 teaspoon nutmeg
- 1-2 teaspoons dried basil
- 1-2 teaspoons fresh rosemary, minced



Assembling the soup: Sautee the onion in a guarter cup of water for a few minutes until soft. Add the 4 cups of water, celery and the carrots, and cook on med/high for 5-10 minutes. Add the potatoes, corn, mushrooms, non-dairy milk, garlic powder, nutmeg and basil, and cook until the potatoes are tender, about 20 minutes.

Blending the soup: If you want to create a creamier base for this chowder, place about a quarter of the soup into a blender or Vitamix, and blend until the consistency is smooth but still slightly lumpy. Return mixture to the pot and stir well. You can also use a potato masher right in the pot to give the soup a creamier texture, or you can leave the soup as is without doing any blending.

Don't forget: Add the fresh rosemary last and cook for 5 minutes longer. Serve hot.

Preparation: 20 minutes; cooking time: 40 minutes; serves: 6

Notes: When corn is in season, use fresh, sweet white corn. If it's not, you can use bags of frozen sweet corn. / Fresh garlic may be used as well, 1 to 2 cloves minced. / You may use fresh nutmeg or dried. If you use fresh, use a Microplane or spice grater.

Roasted Vegetable Salad with Creamy Dill Dressing

This colorful salad features roasted and raw vegetables, beans, and a creamy dressing made with fresh

dill, green onions and tofu. This salad is great for parties and potlucks.

Dressing:

½ cup soft-medium tofu
3 tablespoons lemon juice
½ cup non-dairy milk
½ teaspoon garlic powder
½ avocado, diced
2 green onions, chopped
2-3 tablespoons fresh dill

Vegetables:

- 6 small golden beets, washed, with skins on
- 1 small-medium red onion, diced
- 1 green and 1 yellow zucchini, diced
- 1 yellow and 1 red bell pepper, diced
- 1 cup cherry tomatoes cut in half
- 1 1/2 avocado, diced
- 1 can salt-free Cannellini beans



Dressing: Combine the tofu, lemon juice, non-dairy milk, garlic powder, and avocado in a blender until smooth. Add in the chopped green onion and dill and blend for just a couple of seconds more (so little green pieces of dill and onion are still visible). Set aside. You can also make this ahead of time (or the night before) so that the flavors blend more thoroughly.

Roasting the vegetables: Preheat your oven to 375. Place the whole beets on a non-stick baking pan (with sides) and roast uncovered for 30 minutes. While the beets are roasting, dice the onion, zucchini, and bell pepper. Remove the pan, turn the beets over, and add the diced vegetables to the pan and roast everything for an additional 15-20 minutes, or until the diced vegetables start to brown slightly at their tips, and a knife slides into the beets easily. While the vegetables are finishing roasting, place the tomatoes, avocado and beans into a large mixing bowl. Cool the beets a little before peeling and dicing them.

Assembling the salad: Add the roasted vegetables to the bowl of tomatoes, avocado and beans, and toss with about half the dressing (add more dressing to your taste). Serve warm or cold.

Preparation: 20 minutes; cooking time: 50 minutes; serves: 6

Notes: You can use red beets, but they will color your salad red. / If you use larger beets, they will need longer cooking time. / This salad may also be made with all the same salad ingredients, but raw (grate the peeled beets and zucchini, and dice the onion and bell pepper). / Use any leftover dressing on green salads or baked potatoes, or as a vegetable dip.

Raw Apple Crumble

This is a great dessert because it's easier and faster to make than an apple pie or crisp, and requires no baking. Instead of refined sugars, this recipe uses dates for sweetness, and lemon juice and nutmeg for that extra zing.

Topping:

1 cup walnuts 4 pitted dates

Apple filling:

3 apples, peeled, sliced and large diced
1 tablespoon lemon juice
2 apples, peeled, sliced and large diced
2 tablespoons lemon juice
6 pitted Medjool dates
¼ cup raisins
¼ teaspoon cinnamon

1/4 teaspoon nutmeg



Topping: Blend the walnuts and 4 dates in a food processor until the texture is a little smaller than Grape Nuts. Spoon into a small bowl and set aside.

Filling: Toss the 3 peeled, sliced and diced apples with 1 tablespoon of lemon juice and set aside in a bowl. Next, in the food processor, blend the remaining 2 apples, 2 tablespoons of lemon juice, 6 pitted dates, raisins, cinnamon, and nutmeg. Toss this mixture with the sliced apples.

Serve: Place one-fourth of the apple filling into a small dessert dish and sprinkle with date-nut topping. Serves 4.

Preparation: 15 minutes; cooking time: 0 minutes; serves: 4

Notes: Use a good eating apple, such as a Gala, Fuji or Pink Lady in this recipe.