



MINESTRONE SOUP

INGREDIENTS

• 2 tbsp extra-virgin olive oil

DIRECTIONS

1. Heat the olive oil in a large pot or Dutch oven over medium-high heat.

- 1 onion, chopped
- 2 cups carrots, peeled and chopped
- 2 cups celery stalks, chopped
- $\frac{1}{2}$ kilo beef mince
- 2 cloves garlic, crushed
- 500 g spinach or kale
- 1 brushed potato, peeled and cubed
- Salt and pepper
- 1 can crushed tomatoes
- 1 tbsp dried oregano
- 8 cups beef stock
- 1 can cannellini beans, drained and rinsed
- 1 cup other small pasta
- ¹/₂ cup finely grated parmesan cheese

NOTE: Soup tastes better the next day. If

2. Add the onion, carrots, celery, mince garlic and a pinch of salt. Cook, stirring frequently, until the onion is soft, and the meat brown about 6 to 7 minutes. Add the tomatoes and potato. Add the Swiss chard, oregano, and then beef stock. Bring to a boil, reduce the heat to medium-low and simmer for 10 minutes. Stir in the cannellini beans and pasta. **Cook until the pasta and vegetables are tender,** about 10 more minutes. Add salt and pepper to taste.

TO SERVE: Ladle minestrone into bowls and top with the Parmesan. You can also substitute the pasta for rice.

you are cooking the soup a day early DO NOT add the pasta because it will swell up and taste horribly overcooked. The next day: 10 minutes before you are going to serve the soup, bring to the boil and add the pasta and cook until just tender 7-8 minutes.

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