

## Pasta Fagioli

This tasty recipe is quick, easy and economical. It's proven to be a real timesaver during the week and can be a great back-up meal for the days when you just don't know what to eat and don't want to order in.



Serving

6



Prep

15 Minutes



Cook 15 Minutes



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360 g\* Pastina ("little pasta," e.g. ditali, elbow, mini penne), uncooked

45 mL Extra virgin olive oil

2 Carrots, chopped

2 Celery stalks, chopped

1 Onion, medium, chopped

3 cloves Garlic, minced

14 oz Crushed tomatoes, canned (398 mL) or 3 fresh tomatoes, chopped

19 oz Canned white or red kidney beans, drained, rinsed (540 mL)

2 Bay leaves

1tsp Oregano, dried

1/4 tsp Salt

1/4 tsp Ground black pepper or chili flakes (optional)

2 tbsp Italian (flat) parsley, coarsely chopped

1tbsp Parmigiano cheese, grated

\*1 serving of uncooked pasta = 60 grams or 2 oz or 1/2 cup, which yields 1 cup cooked pasta.

Source: https://www.barilla.com/en-ca/help/measuring-pasta#:-:text=Measuring%20 Pasta,-Return%20to%20Help&text=When%20you%20cook%20pasta%2C%20 2,portions%20of%20pasta%20every%20time.

## **DIETITIAN'S MESSAGE**

This dish is vegetarian and can be vegan if you don't add cheese or use a dairy substitute. Adding legumes once or twice a week is a great way to include a more plant-based eating pattern.

- 1. Cook pasta according to package directions. While pasta is cooking, prepare the bean-sauce mixture.
- 2. Pour extra virgin olive oil in a medium-sized pan and heat using medium heat.
- 3. Add the carrots, celery and onions. Sauté until onions become translucent.
- 4. Add tomatoes, garlic, beans, along with the Bay leaves, oregano, salt and pepper. Mix all ingredients together until combined and allow to heat through.
- 5. Once the flavours of the bean-sauce mixture have had a chance to blend (approximately 5-8 minutes), add the bean-sauce mixture to the cooked pasta and mix altogether. Add parsley.
- 6. Garnish with parsley and top with parmigiano cheese.

## Variation

Don't like kidney beans? Try Romano or navy beans. Feel free to add other vegetables such as, green peas or sliced Bell pepper.



Scan the QR code to view and download the **The Brain Health Food Guide** – an eating tool that includes a variety of healthy foods that supply your brain with the nutrients it needs to function best and will help lower the risk of dementia.



