Chili Mac and Cheese



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Recipe by: Laura Vitale

Serves 4-6

Prep Time: 15 minutes Cook Time: 30 minutes

Ingredients

- __1 Tbsp of Olive Oil
- __1 lb Lean Ground Beef
- __1 Onion, diced
- ___2 Cloves of Garlic, minced
- ____14 oz can of Diced Tomatoes with Chilis
- __1 Tbsp Chili Powder
- ___1 tsp of Ground Cumin
- __1 tsp of Dried Oregano
- __2 cups of Water
- __1 cup of Milk
- ___8 oz of Pasta Shells or any short cut pasta of your choice
- 1/2 cup Sour Cream
- ___2 Cups of Shredded Cheddar
- 4 Green Onions, chopped (Optional)
- __Hot Sauce, optional

1) In a large heavy bottom pot, add the olive oil and preheat it over medium high heat, add the ground beef along with the onion and a small pinch of salt. Cook the mixture for about 5 to 6 minutes or until the ground beef is fully cooked and the onions have developed some color (make sure to break up the ground beef as much as you can using a wooden spoon, add the garlic and saute for 1 more minute.



2) Add the water, canned tomatoes, milk,

chili powder, cumin and oregano, bring mixture to a boil, reduce the heat to low and simmer for 10 minutes.

3) Add the pasta, adjust the seasoning to taste, cover the pot with a lid and cook for another 10 minutes.

4) Once the pasta is cooked, remove from the heat, stir in the cheese until fully melted along with the sour cream.

5) Serve with some chopped scallions and a few dashes of hot sauce!