## Pasta alla Siciliana



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Recipe by: Laura Vitale

Serves 4

## Prep Time: minutes Cook Time: minutes

## Ingredients

\_\_1½ lb of tube shaped pasta (penne, rigatoni, ziti)

- \_\_2 Tbsp of Olive Oil, plus a little extra
- \_\_\_1 28 oz can of Italian Peeled Crushed Tomatoes
- \_\_1 Large Eggplant, most of the skin peeled and cut into large cubes
- \_\_1 Small Onion, diced
- \_\_\_2 Cloves of Garlic, minced
- \_\_1 cup of Mozzarella, cubed
- \_\_\_\_1¼ cup (or to taste) of Parmiggiano Reggiano
- Fresh Chopped Basil
- \_\_\_Salt and pepper, to taste

1) Preheat your oven to 400 degrees, line a baking sheet with aluminum foil and set aside.

2) Fill a large pot with water, sprinkle in a good amount of salt and bring to a boil.

3) Add the cubed eggplant to the baking sheet and drizzle over some olive oil, season with salt and pepper and toss. Bake for about 20 minutes or so.



4) In a non stick pan add the 2 tbsp of olive oil and onions, cook over medium heat for about 5 to 7 minutes or until the onions start to cook down and develop some color. Add the garlic and cook for 1 more minute.

5) Add the crushed tomatoes and season with salt and pepper, cook for about 20 minutes or until the sauce thickens.

6) Add the roasted eggplant and cook for 10 more minutes. This is the point where you add the pasta to the salted boiling water and cook according to package instructions.

7) Drain the pasta and remove the sauce from the heat. Adjust the seasoning and add the pasta to the sauce along with the pramiggiano and basil. Toss until the pasta is coated in the sauce then add the cubed mozzarella and toss around some more until the mozzarella slowly starts to melt.

Serve right away!