Vegetable Lasagna



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Recipe by: Laura Vitale

Serves 8 to 10

Prep Time: 20 minutes Cook Time: 2 hours 30 minutes

Ingredients

For the sauce:

- __1/4 cup of Butter
- ____1/4 cup of Flour
- __4 cups of Whole Milk
- __Freshly Grated Nutmeg
- ___Salt and White Pepper
- __1 cup of Shredded Provolone and
- Mozzarella mix
- __½ cup of Parmiggiano

For the Veggies:

___1 Bunch of Asparagus, trimmed and cut into bite size pieces

__1 10oz box of Frozen Chopped Spinach, thawed and squeezed of any liquid

__4 Shallots, peeled and cut into bite size pieces

- __1/2 red Bell Pepper, cut into small dice
- __1/2 of a cup of Frozen Peas
- __2 cups of Sliced Mushrooms
- ____4 Cloves of Garlic, peeled and minced
- __3 Tbsp of Olive Oil
- __2 tsp of Fresh Thyme
- _____

For the Ricotta mixture:

- __15 oz of Ricotta
- __1 Egg
- __4 Tbsp of Prepared Pesto
- __Salt and Pepper, to taste
- __1/2 cup of Freshly Grated Parmiggiano
- ____

Additional Ingredients:

__1/4 cup of Parmiggiano Reggiano

__1 ½ cups of Shredded Provolone and

Mozzarella Mixture

__16 pieces of No Boil Lasagna Noodles

To make the bechamel:

1) In a large sauce pan over medium heat add the butter and let it melt. Add the flour and stir until the flour is incorporated in the butter, cook for a couple minutes or until there are no lumps.

2) Slowly add the milk while whisking and cook for a few minutes or until the milk has thickened, stirring the whole time.

3) Season with a touch of fresh grated nutmeg and salt and white pepper to taste.

4) Turn off the heat and add the provolone and mozzarella mixture along with the parmiggiano. Let it sit while you continue on.

To make the Veggie Mixture:

1) Heat a large skillet (the largest you have) over medium high heat, add the olive oil and let it get nice and hot.

2) Add the shallots, mushrooms, pepper and asparagus, season them with a little salt and pepper and cook them until the veggies develop some good color, about 8 to 10 minutes. Add the peas, spinach, garlic and fresh thyme and cook for 2 more minutes, turn the heat off and set aside.

3) For the ricotta filling, in a bowl, combine the ricotta, pesto, egg, a touch of salt and pepper and parmiggiano, stir well until the mixture is well combined.

4) Now that all of your components are ready, time to layer and make the lasagna.

5) Preheat the oven to 425 degrees.

6) Lightly butter or oil a 9x13 baking dish. Pour ¹/₄ of sauce on the bottom and top with 3 pieces of noodles.

7) Top that with 1/3 of the ricotta filling followed by 1/3 of the veggie mixture and another $\frac{1}{4}$ of the sauce.

8) Top with 3 more pieces of noodles, 1/3 remaining ricotta, 1/3 vegetable mixture, and 1/4 of the sauce.



9) Top with 3 more pieces of noodles, remaining ricotta and vegetable mixture,

10) Lastly, top with the noodles and cover the whole top with the remaining sauce. Cover with aluminum foil and bake for about 40 to 45 minutes.

11) Uncover, top with remaining cheeses and pop back into the oven until the top id gooey and melted.

12) Allow the lasagna to set for at least 15 minutes before serving.