Butternut Squash Mac & Cheese

Yield: 8 servings (1 cup)

Ingredients

- Olive oil spray
- Kosher salt
- 1 pound cubed butternut squash
- 10 ounces whole wheat elbow pasta
- 1 ½ cups low sodium vegetable broth, divided
- ½ teaspoon onion powder
- 1/2 teaspoon garlic powder
- Freshly ground black pepper, to taste
- ¼ cup panko breadcrumbs
- 2 tablespoons freshly grated Parmesan cheese
- 1 tablespoon unsalted butter
- 1 medium shallot, minced
- ¼ cup all-purpose flour
- 2 cups skim milk
- 1/2 cup shredded gruyere cheese
- 1/2 cup shredded cheddar cheese
- Chopped chives, optional, for garnish
- Sriracha sauce, optional, for topping



Adapted from Skinnytaste.com November 20, 2019

Preparation

- 1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees F. Spray a 9" x 11" glass baking dish with oil and set aside.
- 2. Bring a large pot of salted water to boil. Add squash and boil until tender, 5-6 minutes.
- 3. When fork tender, transfer squash with a slotted spoon to a blender.
- 4. Add pasta to boiling water and cook according to package directions. When cooked, drain and put back into the pot.
- 5. Meanwhile, add $\frac{1}{2}$ cup vegetable broth, onion powder, garlic powder, $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon salt and pepper to the blender with the squash. Blend until smooth and creamy.
- 6. In a small bowl, combine breadcrumbs, Parmesan, ¼ teaspoon salt and pepper. Set aside.
- 7. Melt the butter in a medium sauce pot over medium heat. Add the shallots and sauté 2 minutes. Sprinkle the flour evenly over the shallots and cook another minute.
- 8. Add the remaining 1 cup broth and milk and whisk to combine. Bring sauce to a boil, then reduce heat to medium-low and cook 5 minutes, whisking frequently.
- 9. Remove pot from heat and whisk in cheese, pureed squash, 1 teaspoon salt and pepper.
- 10. Add sauce to noodles, gently mix to combine, then transfer mixture to prepared baking dish.
- 11. Sprinkle with breadcrumb mixture and bake 25 minutes. Switch oven to high broil and broil for 2-3 minutes, or until crumbs are starting to brown.

Nutritional Information: Amount per serving

• Calories: 275

• Calories from fat: 23%

• Fat: 7q

Saturated fat: 4g

Protein: 13g

Carbohydrate: 43g

• Fiber: 4.5g

• Cholesterol: 21mg

Sodium: 462mg

• Sugar: 5g