

INGREDIENTS:

1 cup freshly grated extra-sharp Cheddar cheese

- 2 ounces pimento peppers
- 1 roasted bell pepper
- 4 ounces low fat ricotta cheese

2 tablespoons plain Greek yogurt (2%)

1 teaspoon dijon mustard

1 clove garlic

1/2 teaspoon ground cayenne pepper (decrease or omit if sensitive to spice)

 $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper

4 cups veggies of choice to dip (carrots, celery, sugar snap peas, cucumber, cherry tomatoes)

PIMENTO CHEESE DIP

SERVES 4

DIRECTIONS:

Grate cheddar cheese, if needed.

Finely dice the pimento peppers and roasted bell pepper. Mince the garlic clove.

In a medium mixing bowl or the bowl of your stand mixer, combine the cheddar, ricotta cheese, peppers, yogurt, garlic, onion powder, cayenne pepper and black pepper.

Beat the mixture together with a hand mixer, your stand mixer, or by hand with a sturdy wooden spoon or spatula. Beat until the mixture is thoroughly combined.

Taste, and adjust seasoning if desired.

Transfer the mixture to a smaller serving bowl. Serve your pimento cheese immediately, with your crudite or chill it in the refrigerator for up to 1 week.

Pimento cheese hardens as it cools; let it rest for 30 minutes at room temperature to soften.

Optional: Heat at 375 for 8-10 mins for a hot, bubbly dip and serve immediately.

SWAPS: Try using goat cheese as a substitute for ricotta

POWER IT UP: Add a ½ tsp of turmeric for anti-inflammatory benefits

MAKE IT POP: Add a minced jalapeno for extra kick, or the zest of 1 lemon for additional zing.

FESTIVE FRUIT COMPOTE

SERVES 4

INGREDIENTS:

³/₄ cup fresh cranberries or fruit of choice
¹/₄ cup dried fruit
¹ orange (zest and juice)
¹/₄ tsp cinnamon
¹ inch fresh ginger, grated
¹ pinch salt
¹ TBSP honey (or maple syrup)
to taste
¹/₄ cup water

DIRECTIONS:

Clean and quarter desired fruit. Zest and juice the orange and set aside.

In a small saucepan, combine all ingredients. Bring to a simmer over medium heat, and allow to cook until jammy, 8-10 mins.

Cool & serve with cheese!





SPICY DILLY BEANS SERVES 4

INGREDIENTS:

4 oz green beans 1/2 cup white wine vinegar 1/2 cup water 1 garlic clove, smashed 1/2 tsp salt 1 tsp honey 1/2 tsp chili flakes 1 small bunch fresh dill (or 2 tsp dry dill)

DIRECTIONS:

Trim the stem ends off the green beans to height of jar & stuff in a tall mason jar **with dill sprigs**.

In a small pot over medium heat, bring vinegar and water to a simmer. Add garlic, salt, honey & chili flakes.

Pour the brine over the ingredients in the jar & seal

Let cool to room temp (~30 mins) before placing in the fridge. Keeps for 1 month.

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