Custom Instant Pot BBQ Pulled Pork for 2lbs Pork Shoulder with Optional Air Fryer Crisping

• Yield: 4 servings, Prep Time: 15 minutes, Cook Time: 50 minutes, Total Time: 1 hour 5 minutes (add 10 minutes more for optional crisping)

Ingredients

- 2 teaspoons salt
- 1/2 teaspoon black pepper
- 1 tablespoon brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon paprika
- 1/2 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1/2 teaspoon ground mustard
- 1/2 teaspoon chili flakes (adjust for heat)
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1/2 cup onions, finely chopped
- 2 pounds pork shoulder, excess fat trimmed and cut into 3-inch chunks
- 1/2 cup BBQ sauce
- 1/2 cup water or soy sauce for more flavor
- 1 tablespoon hoisin sauce (optional)
- 1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce (optional)

Pressure Cook

- Set Instant Pot: Switch your 6-qt Instant Pot to the high sauté setting.
- 2. **Mix Spices**: In a small bowl, combine salt, black pepper, brown sugar, paprika, garlic powder, ground mustard, and chili flakes.
- 3. Season Pork: Coat the pork chunks with the mixed spices.
- 4. **Sauté Onions**: Add olive oil to the Instant Pot and sauté the onions until translucent.
- Brown Pork: Add the seasoned pork and sauté until it's slightly browned.
- 6. **Add Liquids and Sauce**: Stir in BBQ sauce, water (or soy sauce), and optional hoisin and Worcestershire sauces.
- 7. **Pressure Cook**: Select manual setting; adjust pressure to high, and set time for 40 minutes. Quick-release pressure when done.

Optional Air Fryer Crisping

- Drain Liquid: Remove excess liquid, retaining a bit for flavor and moisture.
- Preheat Air Fryer Lid: Set the air fryer lid to preheat at 400°F (200°C).
- Prepare Tray: Spread the shredded pork on the air fryer tray in a single layer.
- 4. **Air Fry**: Air fry the pork for 5–10 minutes at 400°F, checking and stirring halfway.
- 5. **Check and Serve**: Assess crispiness and either serve or air fry for an additional 2–5 minutes.