# Chicken Broccoli Rice Casserole •

# Ingredients

Rotisserie chicken meat	Sweet Corn, canned 8 oz.
Long-grain white rice 2 cups	Dried rosemary 1 tsp.
Chicken broth 4 cups	Paprika 1 tsp.
Broccoli	MSG
Cream cheese, softened 6 oz.	Garlic powder <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> tsp.
Onion, medium1	Onion powder <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> tsp.
Garlic cloves	Ground nutmegpinch
Butter 4½ Tbsp.	Salt 1 tsp.
Flour	Black pepper½ tsp.
Milk 2 cups	Red pepper, crushed
Mushrooms, canned8 oz.	Crispy fried onions

## **Directions**

Soften **cream cheese** at room temperature — Preheat oven to  $375^{\circ}F$  — Debone bird by hand and dice meat — Dice **onion** — Mince **garlic** — Cut **broccoli** into florets — Drain **mushrooms** Grease a 9x13 inch baking dish with  $\frac{1}{2}$  Tbsp. butter —

- 1. Cook rice al-dente using 2 cups chicken broth instead of water. Stop your rice cooker 5 minutes early.
- 2. While rice cooks, bring a pot of salted water to boil. Blanch **broccoli florets** for *2 minutes*, then immediately strain in a metal colander rinsing with cold water. Drain well.
- 3. In a large saucepan, melt remaining **butter** over medium heat. Add diced **onion** and cook until translucent, about *5 minutes*. Add minced **garlic** and **mushrooms**, cooking for another *5 minutes*.
- 4. Sprinkle **flour** over the butter mixture and cook, stirring constantly, for *2 minutes*.
- 5. Gradually whisk in milk and 2 cups chicken broth. Add cream cheese and stir until melted.
- Add rosemary, paprika, MSG, garlic powder, onion powder, nutmeg, salt, black pepper, and red pepper. Simmer 5-10 minutes stirring frequently until sauce thickens.
- 7. In a large bowl, combine cooked rice, blanched broccoli, diced chicken, corn, and sauce. Mix well.
- 8. Transfer mixture to prepared baking dish. Top with **crispy fried onions**.
- 9. Bake at 375°F for 30 minutes.
- 10. Let stand for 5-10 minutes before serving.

## Equipment Required

- Large saucepan for sauce
- Large mixing bowl (6+ quart)
- Box grater
- Colander
- Whisk

#### Mise en Place

- Soften cream cheese for 1 hour before starting
- · Debone chicken while cold for easier handling
- Have all measured ingredients grouped by cooking stage

# Ingredient Tips

- Pre-shredded cheese won't melt as smoothly as freshly grated
- · Full-fat dairy prevents sauce from breaking
- Choose plain canned **mushrooms**, not seasoned varieties

## Preparation Tips

- Cook rice slightly al dente it will continue cooking in casserole
- Whisk continuously when adding liquids to prevent lumps
- If sauce seems too thick, thin with warm broth

## Make Ahead & Storage

- Can assemble 24 hours ahead
- Add ¼ cup extra broth if refrigerated before baking
- Freezes well for up to 3 months
- Thaw frozen casserole overnight in refrigerator
- Reheat covered at 350°F until hot throughout, about 20 minutes

# Serving Suggestions

• Try crushed crackers on top for crunch