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1 Breads

Cubano Bread 1.1

Perfect for making Cubano sandwiches

Ingredients

 $1\frac{1}{4}~{\rm cups}~{\rm water}~(100^{\circ}{\rm F})$

1 tbsp instant dry yeast

 $3\frac{1}{2}$ cups (500g) unbleached bread flour

1 tbsp (13g) granulated sugar 2 tsp (12g) fine sea salt $2\frac{1}{2}$ tbsp lard, solidified

Instructions

Preheat the oven to $400^{\circ}F$.

- In a small bowl, stir together the warm water and yeast. Cover with plastic wrap and let sit for 10 min. The mixture should get slightly foamy, and the yeast should dissolve.
- 2. In a stand mixer bowl, add the flour, sugar, and salt. Mix together thoroughly. With the dough hook attachment, start mixing on medium-low speed. Slowly add the warm yeast mixture and the lard. Mix until combined. Once a cohesive dough is formed, keep mixing for another 3 to 5 minutes, or until smooth.
- 3. Shape the dough into a ball, and place in a greased bowl covered with greased plastic wrap. Let rise at room temp for 45 min to 1 hr, or until doubled in size.
- 4. Punch down the dough to release the gas and place on a lightly floured surface. Divide the dough into 2 even pieces. Cover with a damp towel, and let them rest right where they are for 10 minutes.
- Flatten out 1 piece of dough into about a $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch thick rectan-5. gle, with the long edge about 10 inches long. From the long edge, tightly roll the dough and close the seams at the bottom and sides. Carefully roll the log while applying pressure outward to slightly taper the ends. The log should be 15 inches long. Repeat with the other piece of dough.
- 6. Place the loaves onto a parchment-lined baking sheet 4–6 inches apart. Cover with another baking sheet. Let the dough proof for about 30 minutes at room temp.
- About 10 minutes before the dough is done proofing, bring a 10" oven-proof skillet of water to a boil. Preheat the oven to 400°F. Remove the top baking sheet. Using a food-safe spray bottle, lightly spray the dough with water. Using a razor blade

2 Cook time: 28–35 minutes Prep time: 2 hour

- or an extremely sharp knife, score a shallow seam along the length of the loaves.
- 8. Place the skillet of boiling water on the bottom rack of the oven. Place the baking sheet with the dough in the middle of the oven on a separate rack above the water. Spray the inside of the oven with a little water to generate steam.
- 9. Let the bread steam for 8–10 minutes. Reduce the heat to 375°F, remove the skillet of water, and let the bread bake for another 20–22 minutes, or until lightly browned.
- 10. Let cool completely on a wire rack. Slice and serve. Store on the counter loosely wrapped in a kitchen towel for up to 2 days and then in a resealable bag for 1 more day. Freeze in an airtight container for up to 2 months.

1.2 Browned Butter Cornbread

Delicious and savory.

Ingredients

 $\begin{array}{c} \frac{1}{2} \text{ cup (112g) unsalted butter} \\ \frac{1}{2} \text{ bunch of sage} \\ \frac{1}{2} \text{ bunch of thyme} \\ 1\frac{1}{4} \text{ cups (188g) all-purpose} \\ \text{ flour} \\ \frac{1}{3} \text{ cup (67g) sugar} \\ 3\frac{1}{2} \text{ tbsp (47g) brown sugar} \end{array}$

 $1\frac{1}{4}$ tsp (8g) kosher salt 1 tbsp (13)g baking powder $1\frac{1}{4}$ cups (175g) finely ground yellow cornmeal 2 large eggs $1\frac{1}{2}$ cups buttermilk

Instructions

Preheat an 8" cast-iron skillet in the oven at 400°F

- In a small pot, melt the butter over medium heat. Once melted, continue cooking to brown the butter until it turns dark brown. Then turn off the heat.
- Add the sage and thyme, stir to combine, transfer the butterherb mixture to a separate container, and set aside to cool. In a bowl, whisk together the flour, sugar, brown sugar, salt, baking powder, and cornmeal.
- In a separate bowl, whisk the eggs, then whisk in the buttermilk.
- 4. Discard the herbs from the slightly cooled butter. In a slow stream, whisk the butter into the buttermilk mixture. Then whisk the wet mixture into the dry mixture until completely smooth and combined.
- 5. Remove the hot pan from the oven, and lightly grease it with cooking spray. Add the batter to the pan, and spread it evenly.
- Bake for 20–25 min, or until a toothpick inserted into the center comes out clean.
- 7. Cool for a few minutes in the pan and then remove to a cooling rack to cool completely.

2 Appetizers & Snacks

Serves 4 \mathbf{V}, \mathbf{A}

2.1 Boss' Guacamole

Made at every family get-together.

Ingredients

4 Avocados	$\frac{1}{2}$ lemon
$\frac{1}{3}$ onion	garlic salt
$\frac{1}{2}$ jalapeno	pepper
$\frac{1}{4}$ cup cilantro	tomatoes (optional)
1 tbsp mayo	stuffed olives (optional)
2 tsp vinegar	cucumbers (optional)

Instructions

1. Mix and mash all the ingredients together.