A RECIPE COLLECTION

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Stocks

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1.1 Basic Principles

Escoffier once wrote: "Stock is everything in cooking. Without it, nothing can be done".

Indeed, the quality of the stock is effectively the most important factor for a satisfactory result. Therefore the cook mindful of success, will naturally direct his attention to the faultless preparation of his stock, exercising the most scrupulous care in their preparation.

The importance of stocks in the kitchen is indicated by the French word for stock: fond, meaning "foundation" or "base." In classical cuisine, the ability to prepare good stocks is the most basic of all skills because so much of the work of the entire kitchen depends on them. A good stock is the foundation of soups, sauces, and most braised foods and stews.

The following observations apply to all manufacture of stock:

 Stocks are never salted since they are ingredients to other dishes.

- Never boil a stock. Bring to the boil and then reduce the temperature by adding cold water and skim immediately. This technique is very efficient for the removal of scum that forms when cooking with meats such as beef.
- Bones should be cooked for at least twelve hours to extract their minimum useful potential.
- Optionally, vegetables may be roasted as well (use a shallow pan for this).
- To avoid fermentation, rapid cooling of the stock is advisable.
 This can be achieved by adding more cold water. Immersing the finished stock in a waterbath and then rapid transfer to a fridge is also advisable.
- A lot of the clarity of the stock depends on how well it has been skimmed and that its cooking has been conducted under gentle heat.

1.2 Chicken Stock

This is a simple and effective method for obtaining a smooth and gelatinous stock, perfect for binding sauces.

Ingredients

2kg chicken wings 2-3 tsp rapeseed or sunflower oil

20g butter, cut into cubes 1 onion, chopped

1 carrot, chopped

1 leek, chopped

1/2 head celery, chopped

3 garlic cloves, chopped

2.5-3.0 litres of water

Instructions

Preheat the oven to Gas Mark 4, Electric 180°C, Fan 160°C.

- 1. Lay the chicken wings in a roasting tin, add a splash of oil and half of the butter. Roast for about 1 hour or until golden.
- 2. Place the onion, celery, garlic, carrot and leek into a seperate roasting tin or ovenproof dish, add a splash or oil and half the butter and roast until golden.
- 3. Drain the fat from the chicken wings and put with the vegetables in a large pot. Cover with the water, bring to the boil and simmer gently for 6–8 hours.
- 4. Pass the stock through a fine-mesh sieve, allow it to cool and then refrigerate in an airtight container until required.

1.3 Fond Blanc Ordinaire

This forgotten recipe from the great Escoffier is one of my all time favourites.

Ingredients

1.5kg beef bones (shin of beef)225g turnips1.5kg lean beef340g leeks

750g fowls' skeletons 120g parsnips

450g carrots 5.0 litres of wate

Instructions

Preheat the oven to Gas Mark 4, Electric 180°C, Fan 160°C.

- 1. Break the bones as finely as possible, sprinkle with a bit of fat and brown them in an oven. Stir them repeatedly.
- 2. When the bones are lighlty browned, put them into as saucepan with five litres of cold water, add the vegetables and put to the boil.
- 3. As soon as boil is reached, add a bit more cold water and skim carefully. Then turn the heat to the lowest setting and smiller gently for twelve hours, lid half closed.
- 4. Then roughly remove the fat (keep it for later), strain the liquid through a sieve and let it cool.
- 5. Next put the meat in a saucepan just large enough to hold it, brown a little in some fat (ideally from the previous step), and brown it a little. Then drain off fat entirely.
- 6. Add about half a litre of the previously prepared stock, cover the saucepan and let the meat simmer until the stock is almost entirely reduced, turning it frequently.
- 7. Now pour in the remainder of the previously prepared stock, bring to the boil and then continue very slowly, gently at a simmer under low heat, in order to cook the meat for about one hour and a half (keep the lid off).
- 8. As soon as the meat is well cooked, remove the fat and pass the stock through a fine-mesh sieve, allow it to cool and then refrigerate in an airtight container until required.

Soups

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2.1 Lilly Schrödinger's Mushroom Soup

This is a simple and effective method for obtaining a smooth and gelatinous stock, perfect for binding sauces.

Ingredients

2kg chicken wings2-3 tsp rapeseed or sunflower oil20g butter, cut into cubes

20g butter, cut into cubes 1 onion, chopped

1 carrot, chopped1 leek, chopped1/2 head celery, chopped

3 garlic cloves, chopped

2.5-3.0 litres of water

Instructions

Preheat the oven to Gas Mark 4, Electric 180°C, Fan 160°C.

- 1. Lay the chicken wings in a roasting tin, add a splash of oil and half of the butter. Roast for about 1 hour or until golden.
- 2. Place the onion, celery, garlic, carrot and leek into a seperate roasting tin or ovenproof dish, add a splash or oil and half the butter and roast until golden.
- 3. Drain the fat from the chicken wings and put with the vegetables in a large pot. Cover with the water, bring to the boil and simmer gently for 6–8 hours.
- 4. Pass the stock through a fine-mesh sieve, allow it to cool and then refrigerate in an airtight container until required.

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3.1 Bordelaise à la Ritz

This maginficent sauce is excellent with roast meats and game as served at the Ritz

Ingredients

200g veal or beef trimmings
120g shallots or small onions
60g butter
70g button mushrooms, halved
2 streaky bacon rashers, chopped 750ml (1 bottle) red wine 50ml ruby port 1 bay leaf 1 thyme sprig 700ml chicken stock (see 1.3) salt flakes pepper

- 1. Melt half the butter in a large saucepan over a medium—low heat. When it is foaming, lay the trimmings in the pan. Caramelize them gently for 15 minutes, turning them from time to time.
- 2. Add the onions, mushroom, garlic and bacon. Continue to cook until they are also cramelized; this will take about 5 minutes.
- 3. Pour in the red wine, then the port, and add the bay leaf and thyme.
- 4. On a steady boil, reduce by about $4/5^{th}$ until it is syrupy, concentrated and intense.
- 5. Pour in the stock, bring to the boil, then reduce to a simmer. Continue to cook at a simmer for 35-40 minutes, skimming regularly.
- 6. When the sauce is ready it will be velvety and coat the back of a spoon.
- 7. Correct seasoning with salt and pepper according to taste, then strain through a fine-mesh sieve.
- 8. When ready to serve, reheat the sauce and mount it by dropping pieces of cold butter whilst whisking. This will add texture and richness as well as rounding the flavours.

3.2 Bolognese

Traditional Italian Ragú. A lot of recipes are way too liquid, preventing the enjoyment of the meat flavours. The method described here ensures it has the right consistency.

Ingredients

250g minced beef

250g minced pork

2-3 rashers of high quality Pancetta, finely diced

2 medium onions, finely diced

2 medium carrots, finely diced

2 garlic cloves

25g butter

1 glass of dry Martini or Noilly Prat

1 glass of chicken stock (see 1.3)

1 1/2 tablespoon tomato purée salt

pepper

- In a sautée pan, coat the bottom with as little olive oil as possible and gently render the Pancetta cubes.
- 2. Whilst the Pancetta is cooking, melt the butter in a medium saucepan over gentle heat. When it is foaming, add the carrots and onions. Caramelize them gently for 15 minutes, turning them from time to time.
- 3. To better cook the minced meat, cut it perpendicular to it's strands and add both the pork and the beef to the pot. Let it cook for 5-10 minutes at gentle heat with the lid closed. Then increase the temperature and ensure all liquids have evaporated. There is quite a bit of water in both; therefore ensure that there is no more collection of water at the bottom of the pan. Stir frequently as the end approaches in about 10-15 minutes at the higher heat.
- 4. Add the vermouth and let it reduce and evaporate for 10 minutes. No more water or liquid should be present at the bottom of the pan and the mixture should have a rather dry feel when stirred.
- 5. Mix the tomato purée with the chicken stock and add to the mix, stirring until it has coated all the meat.
- 6. Add the pancetta with all its fat and add the garlic.
- 7. Keep stirring for a few minutes, then let the mixture rest for about 15 minutes, lid closed.

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4.1 Foie Gras au Torchon

Foie au torchon can be served with many sweet preparations such as figs, chestnut preserve, roasted fruits and prunes, poached pear, orange marmalade, pickled cherries, mango, cooked apple or sorbet, port reduction, balsamic reduction, toasted brioche or simply with bread.



Ingredients

700g lobe of duck foie gras 8g sea salt 4g pink salt or curing-salt 1g sugar 1g pepper

22ml Armagnac, aged white port or madeira

4L water, chicken or veal stock.

- 1. The torchon is formed by placing the seasoned foie gras on two large layers of cheesecloth and wrapping it into a tight cylinder, then poaching it for 90 seconds.
- 2. It's a 3 days making process. Once made it can be refrigerated up to 8 days.
- 3. First, soak the foie gras in salted water (1ounce/30g) kosher salt per gallon / 4L, or milk at room temperature for at least two hours. This will temper the foie gras, making it easier to manipulate as you remove the veins. Inspect the surface and remove visible bruises or blemishes. The ideal internal temperature of the liver should be around: 65°F (18°C).
- Carefully remove liver from water or milk and drain over paper towels.

4.2 Gougères Bourguignonne

Perfect for a buffet table because they can be served at room temperature and can be done the day before.



Perfect Gougères

Ingredients

250ml water

80g butter, cubed

1 tsp fine salt

5 large eggs

150g plain flour, whisked 175g gruyere or other hard cheese, grated ground nutmeg (optional) mustard powder (optional)

Instructions

Preheat oven to 220°C (200°C fan)

- 1. Crack four of the eggs into a jug and beat together.
- 2. Put the water, butter and salt in a medium pan over a medium heat and bring to a simmer, stirring occasionally to help melt the butter.
- 3. Take the pan off the heat and pour in the flour, stirring until it comes together into a paste.
- 4. Put back on a low heat, and stir until you have a smooth ball and the dough is starting to form a layer on the base of the pan—this should take two to three minutes.

- 5. Take off the heat and beat the dough for about five minutes, until cooled.
- 6. Beat in the four eggs little by little, making sure each addition is well incorporated before adding the next, then stir in the nutmeg, mustard powder and four-fifths of the cheese. The choux pastry is now ready for baking.
- 7. Pipe or spoon walnut-sized blobs on to the paper, spacing them out well.
- 8. If baking immediately, whisk together the last egg with a dash of water or milk, then brush on to the buns, sprinkle with the remaining cheese and put them in the oven.
- 9. Turn down the heat straight away to 200°C (180°C fan) and bake for 20 minutes, then pierce the side of each one with a small knife and put back in the oven for five minutes to let the steam out.
- 10. Serve warm.



Off the heat, beat in the eggs bit by bit, then add most of the cheese, the nutmeg and the mustard powder.

4.3 Egg Salad on Salt & Vinegar Crisps



Perfect for vegetarian guests

Ingredients

eggs 4
mayonnaise 8 tbsp
pickled silverskin onions 40g,
finely chopped
cornichons 40g, finely chopped

shallot ½, finely chopped
ground white pepper a generous pinch
salt and vinegar crisps 1 large
pack
cress a punnet, snipped

- Put the eggs into a pan of simmering water, cook for 8 minutes then drain and run under cold water until cold. Peel and chop into large pieces.
- 2. Put the mayonnaise into a bowl and mix in the onions, cornichons, shallot, white pepper and a pinch of salt.
- 3. Spread the crisps on a large platter and spoon some of the egg salad onto each crisp. Arrange the cress on top.

Main Courses

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5.1 Rigani Lamb or Chicken

A parciluar favourite in Greece, where the distinct flavour of Rigani is particularly appreciated. A favourite for BBQs

Ingredients

150ml olive oil
juice of 1 lemon
2 onions, peeled
2 bay leaves cut into small

pieces
2 teaspoons of dried rigani
pulp of 2 tomatoes
salt and pepper

Instructions

I often use a tin of peeled timatoes instead of pulp. Marinading overnight is highly recommended.

- Add all the ingredients to a blender and mix in a couple of bursts.
- 2. Cube the meat and marinate for at least 3 hours, ideally overnight in the fridge.
- 3. Drain the cubes and thread them on to skewers.
- 4. Grill whilst basting regularly until the cubes are of a rich brown colour outside, but still pink and juicy within.

Prep time: 15 minutes 16 Cook time: 7-10 minutes

5.2 Bayarian Roast Pork

Ingredients

2kg shoulder or belly of Pork

1 leek, sliced

1 fat carrot, sliced

1 reasonably large onion, chopped

1-2 bottles of Bavarian Dunkel

1 tsp paprika

1 tsp caraway seeds

salt and pepper according to taste

Instructions

Pre-heat the oven to 160°C

- 1. Whilst the oven is pre-heating, rub the meat with paprika and caraway seed.
- 2. Slightly cover a roasting pan with fat and lay the meat into it, skin side up.
- 3. Insert into the oven at mid-level and let it roast for about 10 minutes.
- 4. Take out the pan and insert the vegetables around the meat, adding enough beer so that the liquid is about 15cm (ca 1/2 inch) high.
- 5. Reintroduce to pan to the oven and gently roast for at least 1.5-2 hours according to taste. Ensure the liquid never dries but remains moist within the vegetable mix. This important for achieving a satisfactory sauce.
- 6. Roast pork is never served english (ie pink) but rather fully cooked. The genltle slow-roasting prevents it from going tough.
- 7. Once the meat is done, remove the vegetables and the liquid in order to process the sauce by straining it through a suitable sieve (or chinois).
- 8. Ensure that the skin is suitably fattened again, and proceed to make the crackling by continuing to roast the joint skin side up at 200°C

5.3 Fondue Savoyarde

Ingredients

300g Comté

300g Guyère

300g AOP Beaufort

750ml White Wine (Muscadet)

2g Cornflour

1 Garlic clove

Grated nutmeg 3 pinces Sea Salt

Freshly ground black pepper

- Remove the rind from the cheeses and cut each cheese into small cubes. Cut the bread into small pieces.
- 2. Rub the fondue pot with the garlic clove and then add the white wine (reserving a small glass). Place this over a low heat.
- 3. Add the corn starch to the small glass of white wine, mix together and add to the fondue pot. Add the cheese a handful at a time and stir until it melts. Stir in a figure of eight pattern until you have a smooth, creamy fondue. The fondue should resemble a thick sauce: if it is too thick, add a little more warmed white wine. If is too thin, add more cheese or corn starch mixed with white wine.
- Remove the fondue pot from the heat and add the pepper, nutmeg and salt. Place the fondue pot on a hot plate or burner on the table to serve. Stir often to keep the fondue smooth.

5.4 Beef Wellington

Ingredients

Crêpes (see 8.1)

600g Fillet of Beef

500g Puff Pastry

Beaten egg

Bordelaise Sauce (see 3.1)

2 tsp oil

200g King Oyster Mushrooms

10g Shallot

1 Garlic clove

50ml double cream

300g chicken breasts

1 tsp sea salt

2 egg whites

250ml double cream.

- 1. ensure the pastry is close to freezing point.
- 2. Roll from one end. laying out the mousse ahead of you.
- eggwash with yolks only. add a bit of salt.
 ensure the pastry is close to freezing point.
 Roll from one end. laying out the mousse ahead of you.
 eggwash with yolks only. add a bit of salt.

Accompaniments

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6.1 Romanesco Purée

My version of a cauliflower purée, inspired by John Williams, head-chef of the Ritz London.

Ingredients

30g butter 120g romanesco, finel sliced 120ml crème fraîche 120ml milk, whole or semiskimmed

Instructions

- 1. Melt the butter over medium-high heat.
- 2. When it starts to foam, add the romanescor slices, cook them for about 5 minutes until they have softened.
- 3. Pour in the cream and milk and cook over high heat, stirring as the milk and cream bubble.
- 4. Reduce and thicken.
- 5. Once cooked, drain and blend to a purée.
- 6. Season with sea salt according to taste.

Prep time: 5 minutes 21 Cook time: 15-20 minutes

Pasta

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| 7.1 | Egg Pasta | 23 |

7.1 Egg Pasta

Pasta dough with a lot of 'bite' due to the increased content in Semolina.

Ingredients

100g Semolina 300g Italian '00' flour 4 large eggs

Instructions

Eggs should not come directly from the fridge. They should be at room temperature for best results.

- 1. Add the semolina and flour into a bowl.
- 2. Break all the eggs over the bowl and mix with the round side of the spoon to ensure all flour is hydrated. This is a rather dry dough, don't panic when it looks like there won't be enough water to hydrate all the flour.
- 3. Continue mixing by hand, ensuring no flour is left over and shape the dough into a ball.
- 4. Cover with wet towel and rest for 30-45 minutes to hydrate the dough.
- 5. Knead the dough into a smooth paste.
- 6. Cover with cling film and rest for one hour, alternatively leave in the fridge overnight.

Desserts

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8.1 Crêpes

Ingredients

3 eggs 300g plain flour 150ml milk butter for frying

- 1. Whisk together the eggs and flour.
- 2. Add the milk to make a batter that will thinly coat the back of a spoon. Be careful not to over whisk or the batter won't be light.
- 3. Heat a pan, and when it is very hot, add a knob of butter.
- 4. Using a ladle pour in enough batter to thinly coat the base of the pan.
- Cook until golden, then flip the pancake over and cook on the other side.

8.2 Passion Fruit Trifle

Ingredients

250g tub mascarpone 50g golden caster sugar 1 tsp vanilla extract 300ml carton double cream 9 passion fruits
1 orange, juice only
3 thick slice of brioche loaf or plain sponge cake
3 mangoes, thinly sliced

- 1. Beat the mascarpone, sugar and vanilla until smooth. In a separate bowl, whisk double cream until it is softly whipped. Fold mascarpone mix into the whipped cream, then set aside.
- 2. Cut 8 passion fruits in half, scoop pulp into a small bowl and stir in the orange juice. Slice the crusts off the brioche and cut each slice into quarters.
- 3. Lay the brioche (or cake) in the bottom of a trifle dish or glass bowl. Top this with a half of the passion fruit pulp and half of the mango slices, then spoon over half of the mascarpone cream. Repeat the layers once more, topping off with a layer of mascarpone. Use the pulp from the last passion fruit to decorate.
- 4. The trifle will keep in the fridge for up to a day (decorate just before serving).

Bread

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9.1 Baguette de Tradition

Made from wheat flour, water, yeast, and common salt. It may contain up to 2% broad bean flour, up to 0.5% soya flour, and up to 0.3% wheat malt flour according to the 'Decrét de Pain 1993'

Ingredients

200g liquid leaven (2:2:1)

8g fresh yeast

1000g T65 flour (Viron)

20g sea salt
600g water

Instructions

Ensure the water is free of chlorine or other antisteptic additives.

- 1. Mix for 8min slow speed + 3mn fast speed
- 2. 2h bulk fermentation at 23° Celsius (3h at 19-20° Celsius in cold weather may be necessary)
- 3. Fold + 30 mn bench rest
- 4. Divide and preshape into batons + 15 min bench rest
- 5. Shape into baguettes
- 6. 45mn proofing on baker's couche
- 7. Bake 25-30 min at 260-265° Celsius (top and bottom heat, no fan)
- 8. Trasfer to cooling rack

9.2 Miche

I often like to make this one because it is so simple. I even prefer it to the miche from Poilâne.

Ingredients

400 g sourdough starter 20g sea salt 1000g french T85 flour 620g water

Instructions

Ensure the water is free of chlorine or other antisteptic additives.

- 1. Dissolve the sourdough starter in the water and add the flour and mix coarsely.
- 2. Add the dry yeast and salt.
- 3. Now knead the flour using the stretch and fold technique, gently making 4 folds every 15 minutes for a total time of about 2 1/2 hours.
- 4. Prepare oven for hearth baking by adding a pan filled with lava rocks at the bottom and preheat the to the maximum temperature, usually 250°C or higher.
- 5. Let the dough rise for 1 1 1/2 hours, then divide into equal rectangles.
- 6. Rest for about 30 minutes, then shape the dough into baguette rolls and transfer each baguette to their 'couche'.
- 7. Leave to rise for 1 1/2 2 hours.
- 8. Pour a glass of water over the lava rocks, make the incisions into the dough and transfer into the oven.
- 9. Bake until deep golden, usually 20 25 minutes at 240° Celsius
- 10. Transfer to cooling rack.

9.3 Wheat and Spelt Loaf

Country loaf with nutty flavours

Ingredients

| 40% Spelt flour | 15% Leven |
|-----------------|---------------|
| 30% T65 flour | 70% Water |
| 30% T85 flour | 2.5% Sea Salt |

Instructions

Ensure the water is free of chlorine or other antisteptic additives.

- Dissolve the sourdough starter in the water and add the flour and mix coarsely.
- 2. Let it autolyse for 3-4 hours.
- 3. Add the dry yeast and salt.
- 4. Now knead the flour using the stretch and fold technique, gently making 4 folds every 15 minutes for a total time of about 2 1/2 hours.
- 5. Prepare oven for hearth baking by adding a pan filled with lava rocks at the bottom and preheat the to the maximum temperature, usually 250°C or higher.
- 6. Let the dough rise for 1 1 1/2 hours, then divide into equal rectangles.
- 7. Rest for about 30 minutes, then shape the dough into baguette rolls and transfer each baguette to their 'couche'.
- 8. Leave to rise for 1 1/2 2 hours.
- 9. Pour a glass of water over the lava rocks, make the incisions into the dough and transfer into the oven.
- 10. Bake until deep golden, usually 20 25 minutes.
- 11. Transfer to cooling rack.

30 Cook time: 30 minutes

9.4 Pâte Levée Fermentée

Also known as PLF. It is used in many 'vienoisseries' such as croissants or pain au chocolat

Ingredients

| 50% T65 | 10% Levain (optional) |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| 50% Gruau | $5\%~{ m Egg}$ |
| 1.8% Sea Salt | 25% Water |
| 15% Sugar | 25% Milk |
| 4% Fresh Yeast | 50% Beurre de Tourage |

- 1. First weigh the flours, then the dry ingredients commencing with the salt. Once done proceed with the liquids.
- 2. Knead for about 10 minutes (pate ferme batarde), shape into boule, cover and rest for 10 minutes to relax the dough.
- 3. Then shape into 20cm to 30cm rectangle.
- 4. Cover and cool in the fridge for 30 minutes.

9.5 Croissants

Makes 6 croissants

Ingredients

84g T6517g Levain84g Gruau9g Egg3g Sea Salt42g Water25g Sugar42g Milk6g Fresh Yeast84g Beurre de Tourage

Instructions

1. Proceed as for Pâte Levée Fermentée (sec 9.4).

9.6 Pains au Chocolat

Makes 6 Pains au chocolat

Ingredients

| 84g T65 | 17g Levain |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| 84g Gruau | $9 \mathrm{g \ Egg}$ |
| 3g Sea Salt | 42g Water |
| 25g Sugar | 42g Milk |
| 6g Fresh Yeast | 84g Beurre de Tourage |

- 1. Proceed as for Pâte Levée Fermentée (sec 9.4).
- 2. Shape the pastry as illustrated below.
- 3. Proof for 2-2.5 hours at about 28°C.
- 4. Cover with eggwash and bake at 160°C in a fan oven for approximately 14 minutes.



Layout the dough to fit the cocolat batons



Insert the first chocolate baton and fold



Insert the second chocolate baton and fold



Roll and press to close shut