Random Taco Cookbook



# Credits

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* Recipes from : https://taco-1150.herokuapp.com/random/?full\_taco=true
* Code by Reginald Zaccardi-Richey

Soyrizo with Green Chile Cabbage Salad, Quick and Dirty Spice Mix and Simple Salsa Verde in Hard Corn Shells (Traditional; US)

# Soyrizo

Soyrizo  
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\* Soyrizo (The El Burrito branded 'SoyRizo' is by far the best vegan option out there)  
\* chopped potatoes  
\* green peppers  
  
Throw some Soyrizo in a sauce pan with chopped potatoes and green peppers and brown for added bonus.

# Green Chile Cabbage Salad

### Green Chile Cabbage Salad with Seared Corn  
This isn't a tradition, or even particularly traditional -- except in my apartment in Oakland, where I make this for myself ever time I make pork tacos.  
  
#### Ingredients  
\* 1 green cabbage  
\* 4 limes  
\* 2 ears corn, or roughly two cups of corn kernels (adjust to desired corn-y-ness)  
\* Dried, Powdered New Mexico Green Chile, to taste  
\* Salt, to taste  
\* Olive oil  
\* Optional: some crumbled cotija or queso Oaxaqueno  
  
#### Directions  
1. If using ears of corn, strip the kernels from them with a sharp knife.  
2. Heat a few tablespoons of oil over high heat. I like to use a Dutch Oven for this, but the main cookware properties you want are heavy-bottomed and wide.  
3. Toss the corn kernels in to the oil, spread them evenly, salt very lightly and let them ride. I \_highly\_ recommend a splatter guard for this step, but \*\*not\*\* a lid. You want the corn to dry out just a little and get a good sear. It's done when it's starting to get dark, a little chewy, and probably is sticking to the pan.  
4. While the corn is going, core and chop the cabbage in to wide strips.  
5. How's the corn doing?  
6. Juice the limes.  
7. How's the corn doing? If it's not done yet, grab a beer and hang out 'til it is.  
8. The corn is done? Great. Toss it on top of the cabbage. Add a little salt, then a good hit of olive oil, then half-or-so of the lime juice. Toss in a good tablespoon or two of the green chile powder. Start stirring.  
9. You want everything coated nicely, but I don't like the salad too oily, so go easy on that. I add lime until the sour balances the sweet of the corn. I add green chile slowly -- it takes a second to rehydrate and get hot. I might add as much as a half cup of the stuff to a salad for myself or spicy food fans like me; I go easier on the spice-unenthused.  
10. Serve it! If you're in to tossing a little cheese on there, do it -- but I usually just eat it straight. Sometimes this goes on fish or chicken tacos; sometimes it's a side to richer pork tacos. It's always awesome.  
  
\*\*Note on ingredients\*\*: green chile is the gastronomical life blood of New Mexican cuisine, but it's little known in the other 49 states. I like a brand called [\_Los Chileros de Nuevo Mexico\_](http://www.loschileros.com/), which I can find sometimes in tiendas and other times at Whole Foods (go figure). The trick here is this: just don't accept substitutes. It's not the same. I've also had to accept that fresh chile is just not what this salad needs, so don't do that either (it doesn't distribute well enough across the cabbage). Do have this with cold, crisp beer.

# Quick and Dirty Spice Mix

Quick and Dirty Spice Mix  
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I’m not going to make a lot of big assumptions here. You own a skillet of some sort. You have some jars of jankity-ass spices from who-knows-when. You want to eat some tacos within the next, like, fifteen minutes. I got you covered, bachelor(ette).  
  
\* 2 Tbsp all-purpose flour  
\* 2 1/2 tsp. chili powder  
\* 3/4 tsp. onion powder (or 1 1/2 tsp. minced yellow onion)  
\* 1 1/4 tsp. salt  
\* 1 tsp. paprika  
\* 3/4 tsp beef bouillon powder  
\* 1/4 tsp. granulated sugar  
\* 1/4 tsp. cayenne pepper  
\* 1/4 tsp. garlic powder  
\* 1 tsp. cumin  
  
Put all this in something with a lid, add 3/4 cup of water, and shake it. Brown a pound of ground beef, then pour the whole situation in there. Stir. Cook it down until it looks like you only put in half a cup of water. You have tacos now.  
  
Vegetarians  
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I’ve made this with that soy protein “ground beef” and it does not \_surprisingly\_ taste like someone put spices on a stack of cheap bar coasters and ran it all through a blender. (Vegetable) oil the skillet when you’re dealing with that stuff, unless you’re looking for excuses to buy a new one.  
  
If you leave out the bouillon for the sake of doing things vegan-style you’ll probably want to nudge up the salt a little.

# Simple Salsa Verde

Simple Salsa Verde  
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I got this base recipe from a vegan friend. If you can't find one of these peppers, swap in another one!  
  
\* 6 Average-sized tomatillos  
\* 1 Poblano pepper  
\* 1 Serrano pepper  
\* 1 Jalapeno pepper  
\* 1 Sweet red pepper  
\* Juice of 1 or 2 fresh-squeezed limes (to taste)  
\* Pinch or two kosher salt (to taste)  
  
You're in charge of the heat here. For a milder salsa, remove all the ribs and seeds inside the peppers. For medium, leave in a few ribs, and for hot, go nuts. Rough chop the peppers and tomatillos, then throw into a blender or food processor with salt and lime juice. Pulse to desired consistency.  
  
As with most salsas, this will taste better if you let it sit in the fridge for a few hours before eating. It's great on chips or drizzled over steak or pork tacos.

# Hard Corn Shells (Traditional; US)

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Mistakenly thought by many to be traditionally Mexican, hard shells were actually popularized in the US in the mid-20th century.  
  
While they can certainly be made at home (if you have access to a deep-fryer), the best method of obtaining hard taco shells is to head to the grocery store.

Baja Beer Battered Fish with Tomatoes (Traditional; US), Sriracha Salt and Roasted Tomatillo and Mushroom Sauce in Hard Corn Shells (Traditional; US)

# Baja Beer Battered Fish

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This is the beer battered fish for [Baja fish tacos](../full\_tacos/baja\_fish\_tacos.md).  
  
Batter  
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\* 1/2 c flour  
\* 1/4 c baking powder  
\* 1 egg  
\* 1/2 c beer (Tecate!)  
\* 1 tsp salt  
\* 1 tsp chili powder (paprika, salt, garlic salt)  
\* 2 tsp parsley  
  
Beat the eggs and fold all batter ingredients until smooth.  
Add flour to make it thicker or add beer to make it thinner.  
If you have time let the batter chill for a couple hours.  
  
Fish  
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\* 1 lb. cod fillet, grouper, or similar white fish, the fresher the better  
  
\* Cut fish into small chunks.  
\* Fill a pan with oil and heat until approx. 375 F.  
\* Fill a bowl with about a cup of flour and keep it next to the batter bowl.  
\* Dip a fish piece into flour then into the batter.  
\* Fry for 4-5 minutes, turning halfway through. Drain on a paper towel.

# Tomatoes (Traditional; US)

Tomatoes (Traditional; US)  
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Adding a bit of coolness and moisture, tomatoes are a staple ingredient of the American taco. The better the tomato the more flavor they will impart, but even a sub-sandard grocery store tomato has a place in a traditional taco.  
  
\* Tomatoes (diced)  
\* Cherry Tomatoes (quartered)  
\* Grape Tomatoes (sliced)

# Sriracha Salt

Sriracha Salt  
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I actually received this as a gift, but I found a recipe to make your own.  
  
\_\_Ingredients\_\_  
  
\* 1 cup Salt  
\* 10 tsp. Sriracha  
  
Mix the two ingredients together in a bowl. Spread it out on a baking sheet lined with foil or parchment paper. Put in a 200-degree oven, then turn the oven off and let it sit overnight inside. It will clump, but place in ziplock bag and attack it with a rolling pin. Tada!  
  
The effect on most food is as awesome as you'd expect but it is especially amazing with eggs. Add it to your breakfast tacos.

# Roasted Tomatillo and Mushroom Sauce

Roasted Tomatillo and Mushroom Sauce  
====================================  
  
\* 2 pounds tomatillos  
\* 4 dried chipotle chiles  
\* 2 pounds shiitake mushrooms  
\* 1/4 cup olive oil  
\* 1 cup water  
  
1. Remove husks from tomatillos and rinse them. Place them whole on your oven's broiler rack. Broil and turn them until they're browned on all sides.  
2. Boil the water. Drop in the dried chiles and bring the water down to a simmer. Keep them in until they are soft.   
3. Slice the shiitakes and cook them in a pan with the olive oil until they're tender.  
4. Take the chiles and tomatillos (once they're cooled off) and blend them in a food processor until they make a nice puree.  
5. Put the blended tomatillo-chile mixture in a saucepan and bring it to a boil. Add the cooked mushrooms and bring it back to a boil. Then bring the heat down until the mixture is simmering. Cook for about 10 minutes. Add salt to taste.  
  
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A friend gave me this recipe a while back, but I can't remember who it was. Sorry, friend.

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Chorizo with Veggies for Fish Tacos, Quick and Dirty Spice Mix and Beet Salsa in Hard Corn Shells (Traditional; US)

# Chorizo

Chorizo  
=======  
  
\_Adapted from [Aredridel's Lightly Seasoned Beef](aredridel\_lightly\_seasoned\_beef.md)\_  
  
\* 20 oz chorizo  
\* 20 g black cumin seed, ground  
\* 2 cloves garlic  
\* 15 ml white wine  
\* 4 g salt if wine is unsalted  
\* 1/2 small white onion, diced  
\* Oil to coat the pan  
  
\_\_Directions\_\_  
  
1. Heat oil in the pan.  
2. Add in onions, stirring occasionally until onions become translucent.  
3. Toss in the garlic, and the chorizo on top of that.  
4. Add the cumin. Brown the chorizo.  
5. Use the splash of wine to loosen anything stuck to the pan.  
  
Perfect, lightly seasoned taco meat.

# Veggies for Fish Tacos

Veggies for Fish Tacos  
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Fish tacos are a special breed, requiring different vegetable options.  
  
\_\_Assemble your veg from the following options:\_\_  
  
\* Cabbage, purple, shredded  
\* Cabbage, other shades, shredded  
\* Radishes, sliced into thin slices  
\* Red peppers, diced  
\* Cherry tomatoes, sliced (if you're a heathen)  
\* Cilantro, if it doesn't taste like soap to you  
  
And one requirement:  
\* Limes, sliced for juicing over tacos.  
  
Place out your selections and assemble into your taco. Then squeeze a lime over the top.

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# Beet Salsa

Beet Salsa  
==========  
  
Tired of plain ol' [Carne Asada Tacos](../base\_layers/chooped\_steak.md)? Get exotic with beet salsa.  
  
\* 4 - 6 Roma tomatoes  
\* 1 - 2 Serrano pepper  
\* Reasonably sized onion (green or vidalia)  
\* 10 garlic cloves (leave it up to your buds, I like 10 or more)  
\* Salt and pepper to taste  
\* 1 bunch of beets  
\* 1 or more lemons  
  
Fry tomatoes, pepper(s), onion and garlic in a pan until they are brown and tomato skins are peeling away. Move ingredients to the blender and purèe. Chop beets to a blendable size and add to salsa. Add salt and pepper to taste. Squeeze in desired amount of lemon and blend one more time.

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