

Bean and Butternut Tacos with Green Salsa



Nutritional Information (per serving)	
Calories	406
Total Fat	9g
Saturated Fat	2g
Cholesterol	3mg
Sodium	517mg
Total Carbohydrate	70g
Dietary Fiber	13g
Sugars	
Protein	13g
Calcium	

Photo Credit: Ken Burris

Ingredients Salsa

- 8 ounce(s) tomatillos
- 2 clove(s) garlic, unpeeled
- 1 jalapeño pepper
- 0.25 cup(s) sliced white onion
- 0.5 ripe avocado, diced
- 3 tablespoon(s) chopped fresh cilantro
- 0.25 teaspoon(s) salt
- Freshly ground pepper to taste

Tacos

- 4 cup(s) peeled butternut squash, diced (1/2-inch)
- 4 small dried red chiles
- 2 clove(s) garlic, unpeeled, smashed and left whole

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- 1 tablespoon(s) extra-virgin olive oil
- .75 teaspoon(s) dried oregano, preferably Mexican, divided
- .5 teaspoon(s) salt, divided
- .25 teaspoon(s) cumin seeds
- .5 teaspoon(s) ground toasted cumin seeds (see Tips & Techniques), divided
- 2 cup(s) cooked pinto beans, drained (see How to Cook a Pot of Beans, below)
- .5 teaspoon(s) chili powder

Freshly ground pepper to taste

- 8 (6-inch) corn tortillas
- .5 cup(s) fresh cilantro leaves
- .5 cup(s) finely shredded and chopped red or green cabbage
- 8 teaspoon(s) crumbled queso fresco (see Ingredient Note, below) or feta cheese

Directions

- 1. To prepare salsa: Bring a pot of water to a boil. Remove husks from tomatillos and rinse well. Cook the tomatillos in the boiling water until soft, 5 to 8 minutes. Drain and set aside.
- 2. Toast garlic cloves, jalapeño, and onion in a dry medium skillet over medium heat, turning occasionally, until browned, fragrant and soft, 5 to 7 minutes.
- 3. When cool enough to handle, peel the garlic. Remove the jalapeño stem and remove seeds if desired. Combine the tomatillos, garlic, jalapeño, onion, and avocado in a blender or food processor. Process until smooth. Stir in cilantro, salt, and pepper. Set aside for topping the tacos.
- 4. To prepare tacos: Preheat oven to 400°F.
- 5. Put squash in a medium bowl and, using kitchen shears, finely snip chiles to taste into small pieces (seeds and all) into the bowl. Add garlic, oil, 1/2 teaspoon oregano, 1/4 teaspoon salt, and whole cumin seeds; toss to coat. Arrange on a baking sheet in a single layer. Bake until soft and beginning to brown, 20 to 25 minutes. Peel and finely chop the garlic when cool enough to handle; stir into the squash.
- 6. Meanwhile, combine beans in a small saucepan with the remaining 1/4 teaspoon oregano and 1/4 teaspoon salt, ground cumin, chili powder, and pepper. Heat over medium-low heat for about 10 minutes.
- 7. Warm tortillas one at a time in a dry large cast-iron (or similar heavy) skillet over medium heat until soft and pliable. Wrap in a clean towel to keep warm as you go. Spoon 1/4 cup of the warm beans into each tortilla; divide the roasted squash evenly among the tacos and top each with cilantro, cabbage, 1/2 cup of the salsa, and cheese. (Refrigerate the remaining 1/2 cup salsa for up to 2 days.)

Carb Servings: 3 1/2 starch, 2 vegetable, 1 lean meat, 1 1/2 fat. Carbohydrate Servings: 4. Nutrition Bonus: Vitamin A (254% daily value), Vitamin C (60% dv), Folate (49% dv), Potassium (28% dv), Magnesium (25% dv), Iron (20% dv), Calcium (16% dv).

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