Cooking

Cucumber Salad With Soy, Ginger and Garlic

By Martha Rose Shulman

YIELD Serves 4

TIME 20 minutes

The trick to any sliced cucumber salad is to slice the cucumbers as thin as you can and to purge them by salting them before making the salad so the dressing doesn't get watered down by the cucumber juice.

INGREDIENTS

2 large thin-skinned cucumbers (about 1 1/2 pounds), thinly sliced Salt, to taste

3 tablespoons seasoned rice vinegar

1 tablespoon soy sauce

1 teaspoon sugar

1 small garlic clove, minced, or granulated garlic or garlic flakes to taste

1 teaspoon minced fresh ginger

1/8 teaspoon ground cayenne, plus more to taste

Freshly ground pepper

2 tablespoons dark sesame oil

3 tablespoons sunflower oil or grapeseed oil

1 bunch scallions, white and light green parts, very thinly sliced

2 tablespoons chopped cilantro

PREPARATION

Step 1

Sprinkle the cucumbers with a generous amount of salt and let sit in a colander in the sink for 15 minutes. Rinse and dry on a kitchen towel. Transfer to a salad bowl.

Step 2

Whisk together the vinegar, soy sauce, sugar, garlic, ginger, cayenne, and pepper. Whisk in the sesame oil and the sunflower or grapeseed oil. Toss with the cucumbers, scallions, and cilantro. Chill until ready to serve.

Tip

Advance preparation: This will keep for a day or two in the refrigerator but the dressing will become more watery.

PRIVATE NOTES

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