

Mexican-Spiced Spaghetti Squash

NIBBLEDISH CONTRIBUTOR

Ingredients

- 1 medium spaghetti squash (4 pounds, give or take)
- 1 T olive oil
- 1 tsp mustard seeds
- 2 T unsalted butter
- 1 medium red onion, finely diced
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 fresh jalapeno (size depends on your taste for heat), seeded and minced
- 1 t cumin seeds
- 1 14-ounce can diced tomatoes, juices drained off
- salt and pepper to taste
- cilantro, chopped, optional

Instructions

- 1. Preheat oven to 350. Halve the squash lengthwise and scrape out seeds. Place halves cut-side down on a sturdy rimmed baking pan and bake for 45-50 minutes or until flesh easily rakes into "spaghetti" with a fork. Set aside.
- 2. In a saute pan with a cover, warm the olive oil over medium-high heat until shimmering. Toss the mustard seeds in and cover the pan. Listen to the seeds pop and cook until popping stops, about a minute.
- 3. Set the lid aside and reduce heat to medium-low. Melt the butter in the pan and stir in the onion, garlic, jalapeno and cumin seeds. Season with salt (I like about a teaspoon of Kosher) and pepper to taste. Cook until onion is soft, 3-5 minutes. Pour in the tomatoes and stir until heated through, about 2 minutes.

4. Use a fork to scrape the flesh of the squash from its skin, raking apart the strands. Add the spaghetti squash to the saute pan and increase the heat to mediumhigh. Use tongs to evenly mix everything together and heat through, about 2 minutes.
5. Garnish with cilantro, if desired, and taste for more salt or pepper.