

Black Bean Soup

NIBBLEDISH CONTRIBUTOR

Ingredients

- 1 small onion, diced
- $\frac{1}{2}$ green or red pepper, diced
- 1/2 celery stalk, diced
- 1/2 jalapeño pepper, diced
- 2 oz. ham or kielbasa, diced (optional)
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 cups chicken broth
- 1 can black beans
- 1/2 T cumin
- $\frac{1}{2}$ t dried rosemary, oregano or thyme
- ¼ t cayenne
- 1/2 t flour
- Salt & Pepper to taste

Instructions

Sauté onions, peppers, celery, garlic and ham in a pot for 3-4 minutes. Add broth and beans and bring to a boil. Simmer for 10 minutes. Lower heat and mash the beans with a spatula or potato masher. Only mash about half of the beans or to your desired consistency. Add the spices and flour with a whisk; simmer over low heat for 5 more minutes. Salt and pepper to taste. Serve with finely chopped tomatoes and onions.

Diced (peeled) tomatoes, chopped carrots, spinach or eggplants add great color and flavor.