

Pumpkin Sauce Penne

NIBBLEDISH CONTRIBUTOR

Ingredients

- 4 cloves garlic, jackets on
- 6 strips bacon, chopped
- 2 tbsp butter
- 1/2 large onion, diced
- 400g pumpkin, seeded and skinned, cut into large chunks
- 1 cup milk
- 1 cup chicken stock
- 1 egg, lightly beaten
- 2 tbsp chopped parsley, or cilantro
- 1 Japanese cucumber, cut into chunks
- salt and pepper
- cooked penne for 4-5 pax

Instructions

- Place the garlic (still in their jackets) into a toaster oven and roast for 10 minutes on medium heat, about 165-175?C, or 325-350F. (In the meantime, prepare the rest of the ingredients.) When the garlic is done, remove from the oven and let cool a little before handling. Remove the jacket and mash the garlic with a fork.
- 2. Heat a large saucepan and add the bacon. Cook to your desired "doneness" (crispy, or just lightly browned). Set aside the bacon.
- **3.** Add the butter and onion to the pan. Fry for 1 minute until fragrant, then add the garlic and fry for another minute and breaking up the mashed garlic in the process.
- 4. Now in goes the pumpkin, season it with some salt and pepper, and stir to mix well. Place a lid on and cook for 10 minutes on medium heat, giving it a good stir at every 3 minute intervals,

making sure to scrape any browned bits from the bottom of the pan.

- 5. Add the milk and chicken stock and bring it to a boil. Simmer on medium for 5 minutes, stirring to blend the mushy pumpkin with the liquid. Remove from heat.
- 6. Mix 2 tbsp of the pumpkin sauce to the beaten egg. Now slowly drizzle in the egg into the sauce, 1 tbsp at a time, stirring vigorously to get a smooth, creamy sauce.
- 7. Toss in the cooked pasta, herb, and cucumber, and stir to mix well. Adjust seasoning to taste and serve.

*you can add or reduce the amount of liquid depending on the desired consistency. i was guesstimating so please do your own adjustment. bear in mind that the sauce thickens upon standing.