# **Grilled Vegetable Salad**

# A healthy and hearty vegetarian salad



## Ingredients:

8 cups of Salad greens, rinsed, cut and spun

16 spears fresh asparagus, trimmed

1 portobello mushroom, stem removed

8 (1/2" thick) slices peeled jicama

4 (1/2" thick) slices eggplant

4 (1/2" thick) slices fennel

4 (1/2" thick) slices sweet or red onion

1/2 red, yellow and/or green pepper, seeded

Vinaigrette of choice

Salt and fresh ground pepper to taste

Grated Parmesan cheese (optional)

Tortilla strips

#### **Directions:**

- 1. Prepare mixed greens and refrigerate in a bowl.
- 2. Place all the vegetables in a large shallow dish and add enough vinaigrette to coat each one. Season with salt and pepper. Marinate for 30 minutes.
- 3. Preheat the grill.
- 4. Grill the vegetables on a grill rack for 8 -12 minutes, turning occasionally. The asparagus will be done first; the root vegetables will take longer.
- 5. Julienne the grilled vegetables.
- 6. Toss the greens with vinaigrette and sprinkle with Parmesan cheese.
- 7. Drizzle a small amount of vinaigrette over the vegetables and arrange on top of the salad.
- 8. Top with tortilla strips or chips and serve.

Prep Time: 15 minutes Marinate Time: 30 minutes

Cook Time: 8 - 12 minutes Yield: 4 - 6 servings

# **Chicken Breasts with Pears**

Use Bosc or Anjou pears



### Ingredients:

4 boneless skinless chicken breasts

Salt & freshly ground pepper

1 Tablespoon Olive Oil

1 Tablespoon butter

2 fresh pears, peeled, cored and sliced into 8 wedges each

2 Tablespoons orange juice

2 Tablespoons brown sugar

1/4 teaspoon cinnamon

1/4 cup sherry (Benedictine and Cabernet are able substitutes)

#### **Directions:**

- 1. Season the chicken with salt and pepper
- 2. Heat the olive oil in a 12" sauté pan over medium heat. Add the chicken and sauté for about 8 10 minutes or until brown and no longer pink in the center, turning once. Remove to a warmed plate.
- 3. Melt the butter in the sauté pan and add the pears. Cook for about 2 minutes, stirring frequently.
- 4. Combine the orange juice, brown sugar, cinnamon and sherry in a bowl. Pour over the pears and cook for 1 minute to thicken the syrup.
- 5. Return the chicken and any juices to the pan and simmer gently for 1 3 minutes to heat through.

Serving suggestion: Serve with rice

Prep Time: 10 minutes Cook Time: 15 minutes Yield: 4 servings

#### **Chocolate Cheesecake Bars**

Developed for a Strings Fundraiser, this treat is a combination of two favorite recipes



## Ingredients:

1/2 cup (1 stick) butter, melted

2 cups finely crushed chocolate wafer cookies or chocolate graham crackers

1/4 cup sugar

1/2 teaspoon cinnamon

1 cup finely chopped walnuts

24 ounces cream cheese, cut into chunks

4 eggs

1 1/2 cups sugar

1 Tablespoon vanilla extract

1/2 cup sour cream

6 Tablespoons unsweetened baking cocoa

#### **Directions:**

- 1. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees.
- 2. Mix the butter, cookie crumbs, sugar, cinnamon, and walnuts in a bowl. Reserve 1 1/2 cups for the topping and press the rest onto the bottom of an ungreased 9 by 13" baking pan.
- 3. Bake for 12 minutes.
- 4. Combine the cream cheese, eggs, sugar, vanilla, sour cream and baking cocoa in a food processor. Process until smooth. Pour over the prepared crust. Sprinkle the remaining crumb mixture evenly over the top.
- 5. Bake for 55 60 minutes.
- 6. Let cool at room temperature and then chill. Cut into squares.

Prep Time: 25 - 30 minutes

Cook Time: 12 minutes for crust, 55-60 minutes for filling

Yield: 35 pieces (1.5"by 1.5")