Hidden Veggie Spaghetti Bolognaise

Rating: $\star \star \star \star$

Serves: 10 Prep: 15 mins Cook: 35-40 mins

Dietary: DF, EF, NF Allergens: Wheat Age group: 8 months+ Mealtime: Lunch, Dinner Difficulty level: Beginner

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Tips:

Prep tips:

Reduce prep time by adding onion, garlic, celery and vegetables into a high-speed food processor and process until finely grated. Sauté in olive oil before adding the minced beef.

Allergies:

For a gluten-free version: Swap wholegrain spaghetti for brown rice pasta or gluten-free pasta of choice.

Easy ingredient swaps:

Swap carrot and zucchini for seasonal vegetables of choice, such as pumpkin, swede, parsnip.

Additional boosters:

Sprinkle each dish with a crunchy seed crumble.

Baby-friendly version:

Serve mashed or in finger food-sized pieces.

For fussy eaters:

Make sure the vegetables in the bolognaise sauce are pureed before combining with mince and tomato sauce.

Ingredients

- 1 tbsp (20ml) extra virgin olive oil
- 1 brown onion (110g), peeled and finely chopped
- 2 garlic cloves (20g), peeled and finely crushed
- 1 stalk of celery (60g), rinsed and finely chopped
- 700g lean beef mince
- 1 carrot (160g), peeled and grated
- 2 zucchinis (320g), rinsed and grated
- 400g diced tomatoes, canned, low salt
- 2 tbsp (40g) tomato paste, low salt
- 1 cup (250ml) beef broth or stock
- 1 cup (80g) spinach, finely chopped
- ¼ cup fresh basil, rinsed and finely chopped
- 2 tsp (4g) dried oregano
- 300g wholegrain spaghetti

Method

- 1. In a large pot, heat oil on medium heat and sauté onion, garlic, and celery for approx. 2-3 mins or until soft.
- 2. Add mince and cook for 3-4 mins or until browned.
- 3. Add carrot, zucchini, tomatoes, tomato paste and broth and bring to the boil. Reduce heat and allow to simmer for 25 mins.
- 4. Add spinach, basil and oregano and cook for another 5 mins.
- 5. Meanwhile, boil pasta in a large pot according to package instructions. Rinse and drain.
- 6.Serve pasta with bolognaise sauce.

Mandy's serving suggestion:

Serve immediately with a fresh garden salad.

Storing leftovers:

Store in an airtight container in the fridge for up to 3 days or freeze for up to 4 months.