AROUND THE WORLD AT THE FARMERS’ MARKET
Recipes from San Diego’s African and Middle Eastern Community Cooks

Compiled by Leah’s Pantry
In Collaboration with the International Rescue Committee San Diego, United Women for East Africa Support Team and UC San Diego—Center for Community Health
Many thanks to everyone who helped with this project:

International Rescue Committee staff: Hisham Alnajjar, Kaley Hearnberger, Anahid Sarkissian, and Anchi Mei

Leah’s Pantry staff: Jessica Sildorff, Adrienne Markworth, Danielle Boulé, Monica Bhagwan, My Tu Duong, and Ellen Garcia

Recipe development and testing: Jennifer Felmley and Thy Tran

Iraqi Community Farmers: Waood Naddat, Hikmat Abdal, Esam Zora, Bushra Alobaidi, and Sabri Muenut


UC San Diego staff: Nehmo Hassan and Amina Sheik Mohamed

United Women of East Africa Support Team staff: Bethlehem Degu and Sahra Abdi

Design: Petra Andersson-Pardini  Book Editor: Ellen Garcia
Photography: My Tu Duong  Food Styling: Carrie Dove

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**Introduction**

*Around the World at the Farmers’ Market* is a partnership between the International Rescue Committee San Diego, United Women for East Africa Support Team, the UC San Diego Center for Community Health, and Leah’s Pantry. Our aim is to present delicious, healthy, low-cost and culturally-competent recipes to be enjoyed by native San Diegans and our immigrant/refugee populations.

To develop the recipes for this cookbook, we recruited community members from El Cajon, CA and the City Heights neighborhood of San Diego, CA to develop vegetable-based recipes inspired by dishes from their native countries. These recipes will be used in education programs, community outreach and at dinner tables throughout the area. Over lively discussions and shared meals, the group used local San Diego produce to create traditional dishes from five distinct culinary regions: Iraq, Swahili-speaking East African Countries (Uganda, Congo, and Kenya.) Ethiopia and Eritrea, Somalia, and Arabic-speaking North African countries (Egypt and Morocco.)

The result is a delicious collection of healthy, simple dishes that people from any background will love. These recipes are found in English in this cookbook and can be found in Chinese and Spanish by visiting [Eatfresh.org](http://Eatfresh.org). Enjoy!

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**Swahili Tomato Salad**

**Servings:** 6  
**Serving Size:** 3/4 cup  
**Ready In:** 40 min.

**Directions**

1. In a large bowl, combine lime juice, oil, parsley, chile, and salt.
2. Add tomatoes and green onions. Stir to mix well.
3. Chill in the refrigerator for 30 minutes.

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**Chef’s Tip**

For extra flavor, combine 2 tablespoons peanut butter with the oil before adding to the tomatoes.

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**Ingredients**

- 2 limes, juiced
- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 1/4 cup parsley, finely chopped
- 1 green chile pepper, seeds removed and chopped
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 5 tomatoes, diced
- 4 green onions, thinly sliced

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**Nutrition Information per Serving**

- Total Calories: 55
- Total Fat: 4 g
- Sat. Fat: 1 g
- Carbohydrates: 5 g
- Fiber: 2 g
- Protein: 1 g
- Sodium: 175 mg
Black-Eyed Peas in Coconut Milk

This satisfying dish is often eaten for breakfast in Swahili-speaking countries.

**Nutrition Information per Serving**

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**Ingredients**

- 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
- 1/2 onion, chopped
- 1 teaspoon turmeric
- 1 green chile pepper, seeds removed and chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, chopped
- 1 can (15 oz.) black-eyed peas, drained and rinsed
- 1/3 cup unsweetened coconut milk
- 3/4 cup water
- salt to taste

**Directions**

1. Heat oil in a skillet. Add onion and cook for 3 minutes.
2. Add turmeric, chili pepper and garlic. Cook for 2 minutes or until garlic is soft.
3. Add peas, coconut milk, water, and salt. Cover and cook on low for 15 minutes.

**Chef’s Tip**

- Serve with rice or unleavened bread.
- This recipe is also delicious with pigeon peas, called mbahazi. Cans of these peas can be found in Mexican, Middle Eastern, Caribbean, or other international grocery stores.

**Servings:** 4

**Serving Size:** 1/2 cup

**Ready In:** 30 min.

**Preparation:** 10 min.

**Step 2:** 2 min.

**Step 3:** 15 min.
Kenyan-Style Braised Greens with Tomatoes

This is a delicious way to get your leafy greens!

**Ingredients**
- 2 bunches kale or collard greens, about 2 lbs.
- 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
- 1 onion, chopped
- 1 teaspoon cumin
- 1/2 teaspoon ground coriander seed
- 1/2 teaspoon turmeric
- 2 large tomatoes, chopped
- 1 green chile pepper, seeds removed and diced (optional)
- 1 cup water
- 1 teaspoon salt

**Directions**
1. Chop the greens into 1-inch strips.
2. Heat oil in a pot. Add onion and cook for 8 minutes on medium heat.
3. Add cumin, coriander and turmeric. Add tomatoes and chile (if using). Stir and cook for 2 minutes.
4. Add the greens, salt and pepper. Stir.
5. Add 1 cup water and bring to a boil. Turn heat to low and cover. Cook until greens are tender, about 15 minutes.

**Chef’s Tip**
- This recipe also works with beet greens.
- If desired, substitute 2 teaspoons curry powder for the ground spices.

**Nutrition Information per Serving**
- Total Calories: 60
- Total Fat: 2 g
- Sat. Fat: 0.5 g
- Carbohydrates: 9 g
- Fiber: 3 g
- Protein: 3 g
- Sodium: 324 mg

Servings: 8
Serving Size: 1 cup
Ready In: 35 min.
Eggplant & Potato Curry *Mchuzi wa Biringanya*

Prepare this hearty curry with or without coconut milk.

**Ingredients**
- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 1/2 onion, chopped
- 1 teaspoon curry powder
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 2 teaspoons grated fresh ginger
- 1 green chili pepper, seeds removed and chopped
- 1 small or 1/2 large eggplant, chopped
- 1 potato, chopped small
- 1 large tomato, chopped
- 2 tablespoons tomato paste
- 1 teaspoon salt
- black pepper to taste
- 1/2 cup unsweetened coconut milk (optional)
- 4 tablespoons fresh cilantro, chopped

**Directions**
1. Heat oil in a large pot. Add onions and cook until soft, about 5 minutes.
2. Add curry powder, garlic, ginger, and chili pepper. Cook for 3 minutes.
3. Add eggplant and potatoes. Cook for 5 minutes on medium heat.
4. Reduce heat to low. Cover and cook until potatoes are tender, about 20 minutes. Stir once or twice.
5. Add tomatoes and tomato paste. Add salt and pepper. Stir well.
6. Simmer for 5 minutes.
7. Stir in coconut milk, if using. Add cilantro and serve.

**Nutrition Information per Serving**
- Total Calories: 220
- Total Fat: 9 g
- Sat. Fat: 4 g
- Carbohydrates: 33 g
- Fiber: 6 g
- Protein: 5 g
- Sodium: 486 mg
Cauliflower Soup

Directions
1. In a pot, heat oil and nutmeg. Cook on medium high for 1 minute.
2. Add the cauliflower, stock, salt, and pepper. Boil. Cover, reduce heat and cook on medium-low heat for about 20 minutes, or until cauliflower is tender. Uncover and cool.
3. With a blender, puree cauliflower and broth. Fill blender jar only 3/4 full for soup to expand. Blend until very smooth.
4. Rewarm soup over low heat. Sprinkle with parsley just before serving and serve with lemon wedges.

Ingredients
2 tablespoons olive oil
1/2 teaspoon nutmeg
1 large cauliflower, cut into small florets (about 3 lbs. whole or 10 cups cut)
6 cups low-sodium vegetable or chicken stock
1 teaspoon salt
white or black pepper, to taste
2 tablespoons chopped, fresh parsley, for garnish
lemon wedges

Nutrition Information per Serving
Total Calories: 91
Total Fat: 5 g
Sat. Fat: 1 g
Carbohydrates: 9 g
Fiber: 3 g
Protein: 5 g
Sodium: 431 mg
Egyptian Spinach Soup

This refreshing soup is served with yogurt and mint.

Ingredients
1 tablespoon olive oil
1 onion, finely chopped
1 clove garlic, minced
1/4 teaspoon turmeric
5 cups low-sodium vegetable or chicken stock
3 scallions, sliced thinly
1/4 cup basmati rice
1/2 teaspoon salt
black pepper, to taste
1 lb. spinach, washed
2 cups plain yogurt

Ingredients (continued)
1 teaspoon olive oil
2 garlic cloves, minced
mint leaves

Directions
1. Heat olive oil in a pan. Add onion and cook until soft, about 3 minutes.
2. Stir in garlic and turmeric. Cook 1 minute.
3. Add stock, scallions, garlic, rice, salt, and pepper. Cook on low for 15 to 20 minutes, or until the rice is mostly tender.
4. Cut any tough stems from the spinach and cut the leaves into thin ribbons. Add the spinach to the stock. Cook on low until they are tender and rice is cooked through, about 10 minutes.
5. Prepare a sauce: Stir together yogurt, garlic, and olive oil. Chop the mint and add.
6. Serve the soup hot or chilled. Top with a big spoonful of sauce or offer it on the side.

Nutrition Information per Serving
Total Calories: 98
Total Fat: 3 g
Sat. Fat: 1 g
Carbohydrates: 12 g
Fiber: 6 g
Protein: 5 g
Sodium: 486 mg
Chicken Tagine with Olives and Artichoke Hearts

Ingredients
1 tablespoon olive oil
1 onion, cut into thin wedges
3 cloves garlic, minced
1 teaspoon ground coriander seed
1 pinch cayenne pepper
3 skinless, boneless chicken thighs, cut into 1x3-inch strips
1 1/2 cup low-sodium chicken or vegetable stock
1 cup minced fresh tomato or no-salt added tomato puree
2 carrots, chopped
1 small potato, cut into eighths
1 teaspoon salt
1 1/2 cup fresh or frozen green peas (about 10 oz.)
1 (14-oz.) can artichoke hearts, rinsed and quartered
1/2 cup green olives, rinsed and drained
1 cup fresh cilantro, divided in half
1 tablespoon lemon juice

Directions
1. Heat olive oil in a large pot on medium heat. Add onion and cook until a little soft, about 3 minutes.
2. Stir in garlic, coriander, and cayenne. Cook about 2 minutes.
3. Add chicken and cook until slightly golden, about 5 minutes.
4. Add stock, tomato puree, carrots, potato, and salt. Boil, then reduce heat to low and cook for 15 minutes.
5. Stir in peas, artichoke hearts, olives, and half the cilantro. Cook about 10 minutes, or until chicken is done.
6. Put tagine on a serving plate. Squeeze lemon juice and serve with couscous or brown rice.

Chef’s Tip
For a more complex flavor, add a teaspoon of chili powder and a dash of cinnamon.

Nutrition Information per Serving
Total Calories: 167
Total Fat: 5 g
Sat. Fat: 1 g
Carbohydrates: 21 g
Protein: 13 g
Sodium: 543 mg
Fiber: 8 g

Servings: 6
Serving Size: 1 1/4 cup
Ready In: 40 min.

This dish is traditionally prepared in a clay pot called a tagine.
Moroccan-Style Stuffed Peppers

Ingredients
1 cup brown rice
2 1/2 cups low-sodium chicken stock or water
6 medium-to-large bell peppers, tops cut off and seeded
1 pound lean ground beef (90% or leaner)
2 tablespoons fresh, grated ginger or 1 1/2 teaspoon ground ginger
1 teaspoon turmeric
1/4 teaspoon cinnamon
1 pinch of safflower or saffron (optional)

Directions
1. Combine rice and water. Boil, then cover and cook on low for 20 minutes. Do not cook fully. Remove from heat. (Or microwave the rice and stock for 15 minutes.)
2. Heat a large, heavy skillet on medium heat. Add beef, ginger, turmeric, and cinnamon. Break up the meat with a spoon and cook until it is no longer pink, about 5 minutes.
3. Add carrots, onion, garlic, salt and pepper. Cook until vegetables are soft, about 5 minutes.
4. Stir in half of the tomato sauce and cook for 3 minutes. Remove from heat. Add the rice, parsley, and cilantro. Stir together gently.
5. Preheat oven to 375° F. Spoon the filling into the peppers. If needed, trim a thin slice from the bottom of each so it stands up.
6. Place peppers in a 9x12 baking dish. Spoon a little of the remaining sauce over each pepper.
7. Bake until peppers are tender, about 30 minutes. Cool slightly before serving.

Nutrition Information per Serving
Total Calories: 322
Total Fat: 6 g
Sat. Fat: 2 g
Carbohydrates: 44 g

Ingredients (continued)
2 carrots, diced small
1/2 onion, diced small
4 cloves garlic, minced
3/4 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon black pepper
2 cups low-sodium tomato sauce, divided in half
1/2 cup chopped fresh parsley
1/2 cup chopped fresh cilantro

Servings: 6
Serving Size: 1 cup
Ready In: 1 hr. 15 min.
**Arabian Spice Blend**
*Khattet Al-Tawabel Al-Arabia*

**Serving Size:** Makes about 1/4 cup  
**Ready In:** 5 min.

**Directions**
1. Mix all ingredients well in a bowl.  
2. Store in an airtight container.

**Chef’s Tip**
- Ground coriander seed is an important part of several recipes in this book. It comes from the same plant as cilantro leaves. For this reason, cilantro leaves make a great garnish for any recipe including coriander seed.  
- Try adding this spice mix to other savory recipes for stews, tomato-based soups, and even salad dressing.

**Ingredients**
- 1 tablespoon black pepper  
- 1 tablespoon paprika  
- 1 tablespoon cumin  
- 1/2 tablespoon ground coriander seed  
- 1/2 tablespoon ground cloves  
- 1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg  
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon  
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cardamom

**Spice Guide**
The spices used in this recipe, as well as fresh cilantro, are found in many of the dishes in this cookbook.

- cloves  
- nutmeg  
- cardamom  
- coriander  
- cilantro  
- black pepper  
- paprika  
- cumin  
- cinnamon

This spice mix is an important ingredient in several Iraqi recipes.
Eggplant Salad
Salatet Al-Bathenjan

This tangy, flavorful Iraqi dish is a great use for eggplant.

Ingredients
2 small Chinese eggplants, or 1/2 large eggplant, cut into 1-inch pieces
3 tablespoons vegetable oil
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon pepper
1/2 cup water
2 tablespoons pomegranate or cranberry juice plus 1 tablespoon balsamic vinegar, or 2 tablespoons pomegranate syrup
1/2 bell pepper, seeded and chopped

Ingredients (continued)
1 small tomato, chopped
1/2 cup green onions, sliced
1 tablespoon lemon juice or 1 tablespoon sumac

Directions
1. In a skillet, heat oil over medium-high heat.
2. Add eggplant and 1/2 teaspoon of salt and pepper. Stir and flip eggplant to coat with oil.
3. When oil is absorbed, add 1/2 cup water and cook for 2 minutes. Flip eggplant, cover, and cook for 1 minute.
4. When eggplant is cooked, pour into a bowl. Add pomegranate syrup, tomato, bell peppers, and onion. Gently mix so eggplant does not get mushy.
5. Cover and chill for 20 minutes.
6. Sprinkle with lemon or sumac and remaining salt and pepper. Serve.

Nutrition Information per Serving
- Total Calories: 163
- Total Fat: 14 g
- Sat. Fat: 1 g
- Carbohydrates: 10 g
- Fiber: 3 g
- Protein: 21 g
- Sodium: 301 mg
Beet Salad  
*Salatet Al-Shamandar*

**Nutrition Information per Serving**
- Total Calories: 141
- Total Fat: 10 g
- Sat. Fat: 1 g
- Carbohydrates: 12 g
- Fiber: 3 g
- Protein: 2 g
- Sodium: 387 mg

**Ingredients**
- 1 pound fresh, whole beets (about 4 medium beets)
- 3 tablespoons lemon juice (about 1 large lemon)
- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- ground black pepper to taste
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh parsley

**Directions**
1. Place unpeeled beets in a pot. Add enough water to cover them.
3. Rub off peels using two paper towels. Cut beets into cubes and place in a bowl.
4. Add lemon juice, olive oil, salt and black pepper. Stir gently.
5. Cover and chill for 30 minutes.
6. Sprinkle with parsley before serving.

**Chef’s Tip**
To microwave beets: Pierce each several times with a small knife. Place them in a bowl. Drizzle with 1 tablespoon water. Cover with a plate and cook on high until beets are tender. Check small beets after 5 minutes and large ones after 10 minutes.

**This colorful, filling salad is easy to make and stores well.**

Servings: 4  
Serving Size: about 3/4 cup  
Ready In: 1 hr. 10 min.
Cauliflower Salad
Salatet Al-Qarnabeet

Ingridents
1 small head cauliflower, cut into bite-sized pieces (about 4 cups)
1 teaspoon salt, divided
3 tablespoons lemon juice (about 1 large lemon)
3 tablespoons olive oil
2 green onions, chopped
2 tablespoons chopped parsley
1 tomato, cut into wedges
8 pitted black olives

Nutrition Information per Serving
Total Calories: 67
Total Fat: 4 g
Sat. Fat: 1 g
Carbohydrates: 8 g
Fiber: 3 g
Protein: 3 g
Sodium: 663 mg

Directions
1. Bring a large pot of water to boil. Add cauliflower and 1/2 teaspoon of the salt.
2. Boil until slightly tender, 5–7 minutes. Strain and cool a little.
3. In a large bowl, mix lemon juice, olive oil, onions, parsley and 1/2 teaspoon salt. Add cauliflower and toss.
4. Mound cauliflower on a plate. Arrange tomatoes and olives around the edge.

Chef’s Tip
This salad can be made with cooked broccoli or potatoes instead of cauliflower.

Black olives give this salad an unexpected twist.

Step 2: 10 min.
Step 3: 5 min.
Iraqi Tomato Soup with Okra
Hesaa Al-Tamatem ma’ Al-Bamya

Servings: 4
Serving Size: about 1/2 cup
Ready In: 15 min.

Directions
1. In a medium pan, cook the garlic in oil over medium heat until soft. Be careful not to burn.
2. Add the tomato sauce and boil. Add the okra and 2 cups of water and boil.
3. Reduce heat and cook uncovered for 20 minutes.
4. Season with salt and add lemon juice. Cook for 10 more minutes.
5. Serve as a soup or poured over brown rice.

Ingredients
- 4 cloves garlic, sliced
- 2 teaspoons olive oil
- 1 cup low-sodium tomato sauce
- 1 pound fresh or frozen whole okra
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 3 tablespoons lemon juice (1 whole lemon)

Nutrition Information per Serving
- Total Calories: 79 g
- Total Fat: 3 g
- Sat. Fat: 0.5 g
- Carbohydrates: 14 g
- Fiber: 5 g
- Protein: 3 g
- Sodium: 605 mg

This satisfying soup is quick and easy to make.

Yogurt with Cucumber
Al-Laban (Al-Zabadi) ma’ Al-Kheyar

Servings: 4
Serving Size: about 1/2 cup
Ready In: 15 min.

Directions
1. Mix together all the ingredients in a medium bowl.
2. For smoother flavors, refrigerate for 30 minutes. Serve with warm pita bread or over rice.

Chef’s Tip
You can replace the cucumber with thinly sliced romaine lettuce or coarsely chopped purslane.

Ingredients
- 1 large cucumber, cubed (about 2 cups)
- 1 cup plain, unsweetened low-fat yogurt
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh mint or 1 teaspoon dried mint
- 1 clove garlic, minced (about 1 teaspoon)
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1/4 teaspoon salt

Nutrition Information per Serving
- Total Calories: 60 g
- Total Fat: 2 g
- Sat. Fat: 1 g
- Carbohydrates: 7 g
- Fiber: 1 g
- Protein: 4 g
- Sodium: 193 mg

This cooling dish is perfect with a spicy meal or on a hot day.
Zucchini with Tomatoes Tapsi
*Tajen Al-Kousaa ma’ Al-Tamatem*

**Nutrition Information per Serving**

- **Total Calories:** 112
- **Total Fat:** 5 g
- **Sat. Fat:** 1 g
- **Carbohydrates:** 17 g
- **Sodium:** 620 mg
- **Fiber:** 5 g
- **Protein:** 5 g

**Ingredients**

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1/2 large onion, chopped
- 4 cloves garlic, sliced
- 1 large tomato, sliced
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon Arabian Spice Blend, p. 20
- 4 medium zucchini, peeled and cut in 1/2”-thick slices
- 1 (8 oz.) can tomato sauce
- salt and pepper to taste

**Directions**

1. Heat the oil in a pan on medium-high heat.
2. Add the onion and garlic. Cook until onions are soft, about 3 minutes.
3. Turn off the burner. Add 2 tablespoons water to the onions and garlic. Arrange the tomato slices on top of the onions. Sprinkle with 1 teaspoon salt and 1 teaspoon Arabian Spice Blend.
4. Add the zucchini in one layer and spread the tomato sauce over top.
5. Cover the pan and cook on low heat for about 10 minutes, or until the zucchini is tender.

**Preparation**

- Step 1: 3 min.
- Step 2: 3 min.
- Step 3: 5 min.
- Step 4: 5 min.

**Tapsi is a casserole featuring vegetables and aromatic spices.**
### Slow Cooker Barley and Lentil Soup
*Hasaa Al-Sheir wa Al-Adas*

**Ingredients**
- 1/2 cup pearl barley
- 1/2 cup dried brown lentils
- 5 cups water or low-sodium chicken or vegetable stock
- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 1 small onion, chopped
- 1 teaspoon cumin
- 3/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup cooked garbanzo beans, rinsed and drained
- 1 1/2 tablespoon lemon juice (about 1/2 lemon)

**Directions**
1. Rinse barley and lentils. Drain and place in a slow cooker.
2. Add stock or water. Cook on high for 4 hours (or low for 8 hours).
3. In a pan, heat oil. Add onion, cumin and salt. Cook until onion is soft, about 5 minutes. Add to the slow cooker.
4. Stir in the beans. Cook the soup on high for 1 hour more (or low for 2 hours).
5. Just before serving, stir in lemon juice. Put into bowls and sprinkle with parsley and cumin. Serve with bread and salad.

**Chef’s Tip**
To use dried garbanzos, first rinse and pick out any stones. Add beans to the slow cooker with the barley and lentils in Step 1. Increase stock or water to 7 cups and continue with recipe.

**Nutrition Information per Serving**
- Total Calories: 326
- Total Fat: 10 g
- Sat. Fat: 1 g
- Carbohydrates: 49 g
- Fiber: 12 g
- Protein: 14 g
- Sodium: 710 mg

This filling soup works as a side dish or, served with salad, a vegetarian entrée.
Herbed Rice with Chicken and Beans
Al-Orz bel A‘shab maa Al-Dajaj wa Al-Foul

**Nutrition Information per Serving**

- **Total Calories:** 393
- **Total Fat:** 7 g
- **Sat. Fat:** 1 g
- **Carbohydrates:** 51 g
- **Fiber:** 5 g
- **Protein:** 29 g
- **Sodium:** 360 mg

**Directions**

1. Heat oil in a pan. Add onion and cook on medium until soft, about 5 minutes.
2. Add cooked rice, beans, salt and pepper.
3. Add the herbs, saving some for later. Stir in 1/4 cup water and cook until absorbed, about 5 minutes.
4. Mound rice on a platter with chicken. Top with remaining herbs. Serve with Yogurt with Cucumber and salad.

**Chef’s Tip**

- You can use canned beans in this recipe. Rinse and drain them first to remove extra salt.
- To cook brown rice, combine 1 cup raw brown rice with 2 1/2 cups water. Boil. Then cover, reduce heat to low, and cook until tender. This takes about 30 minutes. Cool for 10 minutes. Fluff with a fork before adding to recipe.

**Ingredients**

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 small onion, thinly sliced
- 2 cups cooked brown rice
- 8 ounces frozen fava, lima, or butter beans (about 2 cups), thawed
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon black pepper
- 1 cup chopped fresh herbs such as dill, mint, cilantro, and/or parsley
- 2 chicken breasts, cooked, skinned, and shredded (about 2 cups)

This recipe is a great way to use leftover chicken.
Mujaddara

Mujaddara is a traditional rice and lentil dish which gets a sweet, earthy flavor from caramelized onions.

Directions
1. Place the lentils in heavy pot with a tight lid. Add water and cook on medium-low heat uncovered until soft, about 20-30 minutes.
2. Remove from heat and add a pinch of salt. Cover and set aside.
3. Heat oil in heavy pan on medium-high heat. Add onions and a pinch of salt. Reduce heat to medium-low and start to brown onions, stirring every few minutes.
4. Cook onions, stirring often, until they are browned, about 20-25 minutes. Don’t rush this step; onions will be bitter if cooked at high heat.
5. Sprinkle cumin onto the onions and cook 1-2 minutes. Use a slotted spoon to transfer the cooked lentils to the pan with the onions.
6. Gently fold cooked rice into the lentils and onions.
7. Add salt and pepper, if necessary.

Nutrition Information per Serving
Total Calories: 267
Total Fat: 15 g
Sat. Fat: 1 g
Carbohydrates: 28 g
Fiber: 4 g
Protein: 8 g
Sodium: 125 mg

Ingredients
1/2 cup brown lentils, rinsed
1 1/2 cup water
1 1/2 cup onions, roughly chopped
4 tablespoons olive oil
1/2 teaspoon cumin
2/3 cup cooked long-grain white rice
salt and pepper

Servings: 4
Serving Size: 1/2 cup
Ready In: 1 hr. 10 min.
**Beef and Vegetable Tapsi**

*Tajem Al-Lahm wa Al-Khudrawat*

**Ingredients (continued)**
- 1/2 cup tomato paste
- 1/2 cup water
- 1/2 teaspoon black pepper
- 1/8 teaspoon ground coriander seed
- 1 teaspoon Arabian Spice Blend, p. 20
- 2 medium tomatoes, cored and cut into 4 slices
- 1/2 teaspoon salt, plus more to taste

**Directions (continued)**
6. Add garlic, tomato paste, and 1/2 cup water to the pan. Cook for about 4 minutes, stirring until the tomato paste dissolves.
7. In a small bowl mix pepper, coriander, Spice Blend, and 1/2 teaspoon salt.
8. In a 9x12 baking dish, layer vegetables and meat with a sprinkle of Spice Blend in between each layer as follows:
   - eggplant
   - peppers
   - beef
   - potatoes
   - onions
   - tomato sauce
   - tomatoes

**Nutrition Information per Serving**
- Total Calories: 384
- Total Fat: 15 g
- Sat. Fat: 4 g
- Carbohydrates: 49 g
- Protein: 7 g
- Sodium: 470 mg

Serve this festive layered casserole at your next party.
Chicken and Vegetable Tapsi
Tajem Al-Dajaj wa Al-Khudrawat

Ingredients
3 boneless, skinless chicken thighs, trimmed of fat and cut into 1/2-inch strips
2 tablespoons vegetable oil, divided
1 medium onion, sliced into 1/2-inch rounds
1 bell pepper, stemmed, seeded, and sliced into strips
1 clove garlic, minced
1/2 cup tomato paste
1/2 cup water
1/2 pound potatoes, peeled and cut into 1/2-inch-rounds 

2 medium tomatoes, cored and cut into 4 slices
1/2 cup sliced carrots
1/2 cup frozen peas, thawed
1/2 teaspoon black pepper
1/8 teaspoon ground coriander seed
1 teaspoon Arabian Spice Blend, p. 20
1/2 teaspoon salt, plus more to taste

Directions
1. Preheat oven to 375° F.
2. Season chicken with salt and pepper. In a pan, heat oil over medium-high. Cook chicken until browned on one side, but not cooked through. Transfer to a bowl to save juices.
3. Add onions, peppers and carrots to the pan. Cook on medium-high until golden.
4. Add garlic and tomato paste. Cook for about 2 minutes. Stir in 1/2 cup water and chicken juices. Stir in tomato paste. Continue to stir until sauce thickens.
5. Put potatoes in a microwave-safe dish with 2 tablespoons water.
6. Cover with plastic wrap and microwave for 5 minutes.
7. In a small bowl, mix pepper, coriander, Spice Blend, and salt.
8. In a 9x12 baking dish, layer vegetables and chicken with a sprinkle of Spice Blend in between these layers:
   • peppers, onions and carrot
   • tomato sauce
   • chicken
   • tomatoes
   • peas
   • potatoes

A variety of vegetables and special blend of spices gives this Iraqi dish a complex flavor.

Servings: 4
Serving Size: 1 1/2 cups
Ready in: 1 hr. 40 min.

Chef’s Tip
• You can use 2 large chicken breasts instead of chicken thighs.
• Frozen carrots or a mixture of frozen carrots and peas can be substituted for fresh carrots. If using frozen carrots, do not cook them. Add them in when you add the peas.

Nutrition Information per Serving
Total Calories: 278
Total Fat: 11 g
Sat. Fat: 1 g
Protein: 20 g
Sodium: 534 mg
Carbohydrates: 27 g
Cabbage & Meat Stew
Yahnet Al-Koroub wa Al-Lahm

This Iraqi stew makes a satisfying, inexpensive meal with an unexpected flavor.

Directions
1. In a large pan, heat oil over medium-high.
2. Sauté the onion and garlic until soft. Add the meat and cook until brown.
3. Add tomato paste, salt, and Spice Blend and stir. Add the chopped cabbage and dried mint and stir for 5 minutes.
4. Pour in 1 cup of water and simmer, covered, until the cabbage is soft, about 20 minutes.
5. Serve with brown rice.

Chef’s Tip
You can substitute carrots or cauliflower for the cabbage.

Ingredients
- 2 teaspoons vegetable oil
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 3 cloves garlic, crushed
- 1 pound ground beef
- 2 tablespoons tomato paste
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 head cabbage, chopped
- 1 tablespoon dried mint
- 2 teaspoons Arabian Spice Blend, p. 20

Nutrition Information per Serving
- Total Calories: 240
- Total Fat: 9 g
- Sat. Fat: 3 g
- Calories from Fat: 36%
- Carbohydrates: 16 g
- Fiber: 6 g
- Protein: 26 g
- Sodium: 755 mg

Servings: 4
Serving Size: 1 cup
Ready In: 45 min.
Ethiopian Tomato Salad

**Ingredients**
- 1/2 small red onion, chopped (about 1/4 cup)
- 1/2 small chile pepper such as jalapeno or serrano, seeded and minced
- 1-1/2 tablespoons lemon juice
- 1/2 tablespoon olive oil
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon black pepper
- 3 large, ripe tomatoes, chopped

**Nutrition Information per Serving**
- Total Calories: 39
- Total Fat: 2 g
- Sat. Fat: 0 g
- Carbohydrates: 6 g

**Directions**
1. In a bowl, stir together red onion, chile, lemon juice, olive oil, salt, and black pepper.
2. Add the tomatoes and stir gently.
3. Chill before serving.

**How to Chop an Onion**

1. Place half an onion flat-side down. Slice in layers.
2. Hold onion together and slice it in strips.
3. Carefully cut in the opposite direction to make chunks.
Directions
1. Heat oil in a pot over medium heat. Add onions and cook until a bit browned, about 6 min.
2. Stir in garlic and ginger. Cook for 1 minute.
3. Add collard greens, stock, and salt. Bring to a boil, then reduce heat to low. Cover and simmer until collards are tender, 20 to 30 minutes. Stir a few times.
4. Add bell pepper. Simmer uncovered for 10 minutes to reduce liquid.
5. Just before serving, stir in lemon juice.

Ingredients
1 tablespoon vegetable oil
1 small onion, chopped
1 inch ginger, peeled and minced
3 cloves garlic, minced
1 lb. collard greens, chopped finely (about 4 cups)
2 cups low-sodium vegetable stock or water
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/2 bell pepper, sliced
2 tablespoons lemon juice

Nutrition Information per Serving
Total Calories: 42
Total Fat: 3 g
Sat. Fat: 0.5 g
Protein: 1 g
Sodium: 139 mg
Carbohydrates: 4 g

This traditional Ethiopian vegetarian dish can also be made with kale, mustard, or turnip greens.
Red Lentil Stew
*Kik Wot*

**Directions**
1. In a large pot, heat oil over medium heat. Add onion and cook until tender.
2. Stir in garlic and berbere spice or chili powder. Cook for 1 minute.
3. Add water, lentils, and tomato paste.
4. Boil. Reduce heat to low and cook until lentils are tender, about 20 minutes (or 30 minutes for brown lentils). Stir occasionally.
5. Serve hot with Ethiopian-style injera or other bread.

**Chef’s Tip**
- You may use brown lentils instead of red ones in this recipe.
- If berbere spice is difficult to find, substitute your favorite red chili powder.

**Nutrition Information per Serving**
- Total Calories: 243
- Total Fat: 8 g
- Sat. Fat: 1 g
- Carbohydrates: 34 g
- Fiber: 6 g
- Protein: 12 g
- Sodium: 599 mg

**Ingredients**
- 1/4 cup vegetable oil
- 1 small onion, chopped finely
- 5 cloves of garlic, minced
- 2 tablespoons Ethiopian berbere spice blend (see Chef’s Tip)
- 8 cups water
- 2 cups split, red lentils, rinsed and drained
- 2 tablespoons tomato paste
- 3/4 teaspoon salt

**Servings: 8**
**Serving Size: 1 cup as a side dish**
**Ready In: 35 min.**
Chickpea Stew
Shiro

This is an easy, traditional side dish for an Ethiopian meal.

Ingredients
2 tablespoons vegetable oil
1 medium onion, chopped finely
1 garlic clove, minced
1 tablespoon Ethiopian berbere spice (optional)
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon turmeric
3 cups water
4 tablespoons nech shiro garbanzo bean flour

Nutrition Information per Serving
Total Calories: 48  
Total Fat: 4 g  
Sat. Fat: 0.5 g  
Carbohydrates: 3 g

Directions
1. In a pot, heat oil over medium. Add onion. Cook until soft, about 5 minutes.
2. Add garlic, optional berbere spice, salt, and turmeric. Stir and cook for 1 minute.
3. Add water. Stir in garbanzo flour, adding a small amount at a time while constantly stirring.
4. Boil. Reduce heat to low and cook until thick, about 20 minutes. For a thicker stew, stir in a little more garbanzo flour.
5. Serve hot with injera bread or rice.

Servings: 8  
Serving Size: 1/2 cup as side dish  
Ready in: 30 min.
Beef and Okra Stew

Ingredients (continued)
- 1 tablespoon tomato paste
- 1 green chile pepper, seeded and minced
- 1 inch fresh ginger, crushed or minced
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 2 cups fresh okra, cut in 1-inch pieces (or one 10-oz. package frozen okra, thawed)

Directions
1. Heat oil in a large pot on high. Add onion and cook until soft.
2. Add beef, garlic, coriander, cumin, and white pepper. Stir and cook until meat is brown, about 5 minutes.
3. Add water, tomatoes, tomato paste, chile, ginger, and salt. Stir and boil. Reduce heat to low. Cover partly and cook until meat is tender, 30 to 40 minutes.

Nutrition Information per Serving
- Total Calories: 230
- Total Fat: 14 g
- Sat. Fat: 4 g
- Protein: 18 g
- Carbohydrates: 9 g
- Fiber: 2 g
- Sodium: 459 mg

Servings: 6
Serving Size: 1 cup
Ready In: 1 hr.

This Ethiopian okra stew includes beef and aromatic spices.
A bright salad to accompany any meal, with a spicy kick!

Nutrition Information per Serving
- Total Calories: 121
- Total Fat: 4 g
- Sat. Fat: 1 g
- Carbohydrates: 17 g
- Protein: 5 g
- Fiber: 5 g
- Sodium: 638 mg

Directions
1. In a pan, heat oil. Add onion and cook until tender, about 3 minutes.
2. Add garlic, berbere spice, and cumin. Stir and cook for 1 minute.
3. Add tomato, salt, and black pepper. Cook for about 5 minutes.
4. Add fava beans. Stir and cook for about 10 minutes.
5. Serve with crusty bread or injera.

Chef’s Tip
You can replace berbere spice with your favorite chili powder and a pinch of ground cayenne.

Serve this as a side dish or an appetizer with bread.

Ingredients
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 large onion, chopped finely
- 1 large clove garlic, minced
- 1 tablespoon Ethiopian berbere spice blend (see Chef’s Tip)
- 1 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1 large tomato, chopped
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- black pepper, to taste
- 1 can (15 oz.) fava or broad beans, washed and drained, or 1 1/2 cup cooked fava

Servings: 4
Serving Size: 1/2 cup
Ready In: 30 min.
**Somali Okra and Vegetable Soup**

*Suqaar*

**Ingredients**
- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 1 onion, chopped
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 teaspoons cumin
- 1 teaspoon ground coriander seed
- 3 cups low-sodium vegetable or chicken stock
- 3 carrots, chopped
- 2 medium red potatoes, chopped
- 1 zucchini, chopped
- 1 bell pepper, chopped
- 1 lb. fresh or frozen okra, chopped
- 1 large tomato, chopped
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- black pepper, to taste
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh cilantro

**Directions**
1. In a large pot, heat oil on medium. Add onion and cook until soft, about 5 minutes.
2. Add garlic, cumin, and coriander. Cook for 1 minute.
3. Add stock, carrots, potatoes, zucchini, and bell pepper. Stir and then boil. Reduce heat and cook 15 to 20 minutes.
4. Stir in okra and tomato. Cook until vegetables are tender, 5 to 10 minutes.
5. Season with salt and black pepper. Garnish with cilantro before serving.

**Nutrition Information per Serving**
- Total Calories: 271
- Total Fat: 9 g
- Sat. Fat: 1 g
- Carbohydrates: 43 g
- Fiber: 12 g
- Protein: 10 g
- Sodium: 531 mg
Cabbage with Carrots

**Ingredients**
- 1/2 small red onion, chopped (about 1/4 cup)
- 1/2 small chile pepper such as jalapeno or serrano, seeded and minced
- 1-1/2 tablespoons lemon juice
- 1/2 tablespoon olive oil
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon black pepper
- 3 large, ripe tomatoes, chopped

**Nutrition Information per Serving**
- Total Calories: 96
- Total Fat: 4 g
- Sat. Fat: 1 g
- Carbohydrates: 15 g
- Fiber: 5 g
- Protein: 2 g
- Sodium: 135 mg

**Directions**
1. In a large pot, heat oil on medium. Add mustard seeds. Cook until they start to pop but do not burn, about 30 seconds.
2. Add onion and cook until soft, 3 to 5 minutes.
3. Stir in ginger, chile, and turmeric. Cook for 1 minute.
4. Add cabbage, carrots, and salt. Mix well. Cover the pot and cook 10 to 15 minutes. Stir a few times and scrape spices from the bottom of the pot to avoid burning them.

A quick and delicious side dish from Somalia that adds pretty color to your plate!
Bantu Brown Rice

Add a few spices to your brown rice to create a festive dish!

**Ingredients**
1 tablespoon vegetable oil (sesame is best)
3 tablespoons chopped onion
1 teaspoon ground cardamom
2 teaspoon ground cumin
2 cups uncooked brown rice
2 teaspoons minced garlic
4 cups low-sodium chicken stock or water, boiling
2 teaspoons cilantro, minced

**Chef's Tip**
- 2 chicken bouillon cubes can be added to the water if chicken stock is not available.
- If white jasmine rice is used, reduce cooking time to 20 minutes.
- To make in a rice cooker, begin cooker cycle and cook the onion and spices with the cover open. Add the rice and broth and close the cover. Cook for another cycle.

**Directions**
1. Heat oil in large pot on medium. Add onion, cardamom and cumin. Stir for 2 minutes.
2. Add rice and garlic. Stir.
3. Add boiling liquid. Cover and cook on low until water is absorbed, about 45 minutes. Remove from heat and stir in cilantro.

**Nutrition Information per Serving**
- Total Calories: 231
- Total Fat: 4 g
- Sat. Fat: 1 g
- Carbohydrates: 43 g
- Fiber: 2 g
- Protein: 6 g
- Sodium: 67 mg

**Servings:** 8  
**Serving Size:** 1 cup  
**Ready In:** 1 hr.
Beef and Potato Stew

Ingredients (continued)
- 2 small red potatoes, chopped
- 2 carrots, chopped
- 1 green bell pepper, chopped
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- black pepper to taste
- 1/4 cup fresh cilantro, chopped

Nutrition Information per Serving
- Total Calories: 256
- Total Fat: 10 g
- Sat. Fat: 3 g
- Carbohydrates: 15 g

Directions
1. In a large pot, heat oil. Add onion and cook until tender, about 4 minutes.
2. Add beef, garlic, cumin, coriander, and chile. Stir and cook on high for 3 minutes.
3. Add stock, potatoes, carrots, and bell pepper. Boil. Reduce heat to low, cover, and cook until beef is tender, 30 to 40 minutes. If needed, add a little water.
4. Season with salt and pepper. Sprinkle with cilantro just before serving.

This hearty stew has a wonderful blend of spices.
Somali Pasta with Beef and Vegetables

**Baasto**

**Ingredients**
- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 1 small onion, chopped
- 4 large garlic cloves, minced
- 2 teaspoons cumin
- 2 teaspoons ground coriander seed
- 1/4 teaspoon cayenne powder, or to taste
- 3/4 lb. ground or minced beef
- 2 small red potatoes, chopped small (optional)
- 1 carrot, chopped
- 1 tomato, chopped
- 2 cups low-sodium chicken stock
- 11/2 cups pasta sauce (prepared tomato sauce)
- 1/2 package spaghetti (8 oz.), cooked and drained
- 2 tablespoons fresh cilantro, chopped

**Nutrition Information per Serving**
- Total Calories: 543
- Total Fat: 16 g
- Sat. Fat: 4 g
- Carbohydrates: 71 g
- Fiber: 7 g
- Protein: 27 g
- Sodium: 531 mg

**Directions**
1. In a large pot, heat oil. Add onions and cook until tender, about 5 minutes.
2. Add garlic, cumin, coriander, and cayenne. Cook for 1 minute.
3. Add beef and cook until brown, 3 to 5 minutes.
4. Add stock, pasta sauce, potatoes, carrot, and tomato. Boil. Reduce heat and cook until vegetables are tender, about 20 minutes.
5. Serve hot over warm pasta. Garnish with cilantro.

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