

New Year's Day Hoppin' John

INGREDIENTS

- 6 ounces of country ham, cut into bite-size pieces
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 onion, chopped
- 3 cloves of garlic, minced
- 1 tablespoon dried thyme
- 1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper (optional)
- 1 15-ounce can of tomato sauce
- 1 15-ounce can of diced tomatoes
- 3 15-ounce cans blacked eyed peas
- 1 box Uncle Ben's Wild Rice Mix with seasoning packet
- 2 bay leaves
- 3 cups chicken broth
- 2 large handfuls (about 4 loose cups) of collard greens (any dark green will work)
- Salt and Pepper to taste
- Hot Sauce
- Sliced green onions

INSTRUCTIONS

- 1. Heat oil in a large Dutch oven. Add ham and cook for 3-4 mins or until slightly browned.
- 2. Add onion and sauté until tender 5-7 min.
- 3. Add garlic, thyme, and cayenne, and cook until fragrant.
- 4. Add tomato sauce, tomatoes, and beans. Bring to a boil, reduce temperature and simmer for 10 min.
- 5. Add rice with a seasoning packet and chicken broth. Simmer for 20 min.
- 6. Add chopped collard greens and cook for an additional 10 min.
- 7. Season with salt, pepper, and hot sauce if needed.
- 8. Top with green onions.

Mimi's Buttermilk Cornbread

INGREDIENTS

- 1/3 cup sugar
- 1/3 cup butter, softened
- 1 cup flour
- 4 tsp baking powder
- 1/2 tsp salt

- 1 egg
- 1 1/4 cups buttermilk (regular milk will work, too)
- 1 cup cornmeal

INSTRUCTIONS

- 1. Preheat oven to 425 degrees and liberally butter your pan.
- 2. In a small mixing bowl measure out sugar, and softened butter then cream together.
- 3. In a large mixing bowl, measure out the flour, salt, and baking powder. Whisk to combine.
- 4. In a medium bowl beat one egg and buttermilk together.
- 5. Whisk the milk and egg mixture into the butter mixture.
- 6. Mix the liquid mixture into the flour mixture. Do not over-mix.
- 7. Add in cornmeal and stir until just combined.
- 8. Pour into your buttered pan and bake for 20-25 minutes.