

## RECIPES

## **Upscale Macaroni and Cheese**

## **INGREDIENTS:**

1 lb orecchiete pasta

1 c sour cream or plain yogurt

1 Tbsp olive oil

6 Tbsp butter

1 yellow onion, diced

1/3 c all-purpose flour

3 c milk

2 roasted red bell peppers, pureed

1 1/2 c (6 oz) grated cheddar cheese

1/2 c grated parmesan cheese

3 oz cream cheese, cut

8 c firmly packed spinach

(or 1 10 oz pkg of frozen spinach, thawed)

1/2 c sun-dried tomatoes

(or 1 14 oz can diced tomatoes, drained and roasted)

Juice of 1 lemon

2 tsp salt

1 tbsp pepper

2 tbsp marjoram

## **INSTRUCTIONS:**

- 1. Preheat oven to 300 and lightly grease 9x13 baking dish
- 2. Cook pasta until al dente. Rinse and drain well. Toss with sour cream until just mixed, then set aside.
- 3. Heat olive oil and butter in skillet over medium heat and add onion. Cook and stir 3-4 minutes.
- 4. Stir flour in and cook, stirring constantly, about 3 minutes.
- 5. Slowly whisk in milk and cook, stirring constantly until mix comes to a boil and thickens, about 3-4 minutes.
- 6. Remove sauce from heat and stir in peppers, cheese, cream cheese, spinach, sun-dried tomatoes, and lemon juice. Stir until cheese melts.
- 7. Add pasta-sour cream mix to cheese mix. Add salt, pepper, and marjoram, toss until well-blended.
- 8. Transfer to baking dish and bake 40-45 minutes. Let cool 10 minutes before serving.

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