

Greek Style Spaghetti Squash

1 spaghetti squash (2-3 pounds)

2 tablespoons olive oil 1 cup chopped onion 1/4 cup chopped green bell pepper

2 cloves garlic, minced 1 cup fresh spinach leaves 11/2 cups chopped tomatoes 1 teaspoon dried oregano

1 teaspoon lemon no-salt seasoning blend

1/4 teaspoon salt 2 tablespoons chopped fresh basil

3/4 cup crumbled lowfat feta cheese

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Prepare the squash by carefully cutting it in half lengthwise with a sharp knife and scooping out the seeds. Place on a lightly greased baking sheet, cut-side down and bake for 30 to 35 minutes, or until a sharp knife can be easily inserted into the rind. Remove the squash from the oven and allow to cool. When cooled, use a fork to scrape out the stringy flesh from the shell and place in a colander. Press out as much liquid as possible. Place squash in a medium bowl and keep warm. **Heat** the oil in a skillet over medium heat. Sauté the

onion and bell pepper until tender. Add the garlic and continue to cook 2-3 minutes. Add the spinach; allow to wilt. Stir in tomatoes and cook until tomatoes are heated through. Toss the cooked vegetables with the warm spaghetti squash. Stir in seasonings, basil, and feta cheese. Serve warm.

Yield: 8, ½ cup servings

Nutritional Analysis: 120 calories, 6 g fat, 2 g saturated fat, 5 mg cholesterol, 280 mg sodium, 14 g carbohydrate, 3 g fiber, 6 g sugars, 4 a protein.

SEASON: August through October.

NUTRITION FACTS: Squash is low in calories. One cup raw squash contains 42 calories. It contains vitamin C, potassium and calcium. It is naturally free of fat and cholesterol.

SELECTION: Choose squash that is a creamy to deep yellow in color. Look for hard skinned, evenly colored squash without blemishes or ridges. Avoid squash that are tinged with green as they are not mature.

STORAGE: Spaghetti squash can be stored at room temperature for up to one

month. Longer if stored in a cool, dry, dark location. Do not wash before storing.

PREPARATION:

To Bake: Pierce holes in the squash and place in a baking dish. Bake at 350 degrees F for one hour or until the skin gives easily under pressure and the inside is tender. Cool for 10 to 15 minutes.

To Microwave: Pierce holes in the squash and microwave on high for 10 to 12 minutes. Let stand 5 minutes.

Halve squash lengthwise and discard seeds. Shred squash with a fork and serve.

KENTUCKY SPAGHETTI SQUASH Kentucky Proud Project

County Extension Agents for Family and Consumer Sciences University of Kentucky, Dietetics

and Human Nutrition students October 2016

Source: www.fruitsandveggiesmatter.gov

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