Canned pumpkin can make Fall a snap

Culinary Outlook

By Aileen Claire NEA Food Editor

Though fast foods have their place, even busy people eventually tire of short cuts and soon realize the value of a well-rounded diet. Eating right is not as complicated or time consuming as it might seem: A list of basics for the kitchen shelves can put a variety of meats, fish, vegetables, fruits and soups within reach for quick, more nutritious meals.

FOOD



AILEEN CLAIRE

A study for the canned food industry revealed that there is little nutritional difference between fresh, frozen and canned foods. Since canned foods are cooked, most require only heating before being served. And the food industry is offering more canned products without salt and with little or no added sugar.

For safety reasons, avoid cans with leaks, bulges, or badly bent end seams. It is also wise to check cans on home shelves for any of these signs. The contents of any damaged can should be disposed of in a place where the food will not be eaten by anyone.

Canned pumpkin enables a busy cook to whip up quick and tasty fall treats.

FRUITED PUMPKIN SOUP

teaspoons minced fresh ginger root or 1 teaspoon dried ginger tablespoons butter or margarine

can (16 ounces) pumpkin
cups water
cup orange juice concentrate
(undiluted)
cup apple juice concentrate

(undiluted)
o 3 tablespoons clover honey

teaspoon chicken-flavor instant bouillon crystals
to to teaspoon ground nutmeg to to teaspoon ground alispica teaspoon salt

teaspoon ground anspice
teaspoon sait
cup helf-and-helf
sour cream or sour helf-andhelf
grated orange rind

Saute ginger root in butter in large saucepan for 2 minutes. Add pumpkin, water, orange juice concentrate, apple juice concentrate, honey, bouillon, nutmeg, allspice and salt. Heat to boiling.

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Reduce heat and simmer, uncovered, for 5 minutes. Stir in half-and-half. Cook over medium heat until hot, 2 to 3 minutes. Spoon into bowls, and garnish with dollops of sour cream and grated orange rind. This kitchen-tested recipe makes 6 servings.

Note: Fruited Pumpkin Soup is also delicious cold. Cool to room temperature, then refrigerate until chilled, 3 to 4 hours: Serve and garnish as above.

HOLIDAY PUMPKIN LOAVES

cup butter or margarine,
softened
cup granulated sugar
cup packed light brown sugar
eggs
can (16 ounces) pumpkin
cup orange juice
cups all-purpose flour
teaspoons baking sods

teaspoons baking sods
teaspoon baking powder
teaspoon ground cinnamon
teaspoon ground nutmeg
teaspoon ground cloves
teaspoon salt
cup coarsely chopped pecans

cup golden raisins

tablespoon grated orange rind Orange Glaze (recipe follows)

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Beat butter and sugars in large bowl until fluffy. Beat in eggs, pumpkin and orange julce. Mix in flour, baking soda, baking powder, cinnamon, nutmeg, cloves and salt. Mix in pecans, raisins and orange rind. Grease bottoms of 2 loaf pans, 9-by-5-by-3 inches. Pour batter into pans. Bake at 350 degrees until toothpicks inserted in centers of loaves come out clean, and 1 hour. Remove bread from pans. Cool on wire racks.

Make Orange Glaze. Drizzle over bread. This kitchen-tested recipe makes 2 loaves.

ORANGE GLAZE

cup powdered sugar
tablespoons butter or
margarine, softened
tablespoons frozen orange
juice concentrate, thawed

Mix powdered sugar and butter, adding enough orange concentrate to make a smooth glaze consistency.



CANNED PUMPKIN isn't just for pie anymore. It also makes delicious soups and breads that are quick and easy to make.





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Tasty recipes

RED WINE MARINADE

- 1 cup dry red wine 3 tablespoons red wine vinegar 2 tablespoons coarse grain mustard
- tablespoons vegetable oil cloves garlic, minced
- 1½ teaspoons sugar
 - teaspoon cracked black pepper

Combine red wine, vinegar, mustard, oil, garlic, sugar and pepper in 2-cup microwave-safe glass measure. Cover with plastic wrap, venting one corner. Microwave at High 3 to 4 minutes, stirring occasionally. Cool thoroughly before using. This kitchentested recipe makes about 1¼ cups. Use as a marinade on larger cuts of beef such as an eye round roast, 1½-inch thick top round, chuck steaks or larger cube kabobs.

YOGURT-CURRY MARINADE

cup plain low fat yogurt teaspoons curry power tablespoon olive oil clove garlic, minced

teaspoons sugar teaspoons hot pepper sauce teaspoons cracked white

pepper

Combine yogurt, curry powder, olive oil, garlic, sugar, hot pepper sauce
and pepper. This kitchen-tested recipe makes about 1 cup. Use as a marinade on steaks or roasts. Remove
meat from marinade before cooking.

ASK KATHY:

Weight-Loss Plateaus

A plateau, or temporary absence if weight loss while dieting, is the body's way of defending against losing weight too quickly. They will occur every two to six weeks. Although these plateaus may last for several days, exercising can reduce the length of time you will remain at the same weight. There is no need for further reducing the amount of food you are currently eating or the types of food, but you might want to try different food combinations.

At Diet Center, we teach you how to deal with plateaus. Many times you will continue to lose inches even though your weight loss has slowed. Plateaus really aren't so bad if you



KATHY HAJAS Diet Center Counselor

focus on their positive aspects and don't give up. When you reach that first plateau, you know you are on your way to a slimmer, healthier you.



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