

Necessity really is the mother of invention

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WhatsCookin

Thanks to a recent event at the Superstore, I was required to make enough chili for a 150 people, so I was able to fine tune my chili recipe. I also discovered a fantastic secret don't you love how necessity really is the mother of invention?

Since I was making such a large quantity of chili, I had no room and not enough pots to cook it on the stove top. So, out of necessity, I loaded the chili into roast pans and cooked it in the oven instead. A couple of things happened. First of all, I turned the temperature down low (to 300 degrees) because I wasn't

sure how often I would be able to come back and check on it (since the event I was running was on the main floor and the cooking school ovens are upstairs). And, as it turns out, the chili needed to stay in the oven longer than I thought because I was simply too busy to pay much attention to it.

It was the best chili I've ever made.

The meat was super tender and the consistency was thick and rich. Sometimes when you make chili and don't cook it for long enough, it can be watery. This was not. The

juices reduced beautifully and I was delighted with the effect.

Now, I was making huge pans of it, so just in case the result was different, I went home and made a regular sized batch to test for you. So, you will notice that the temperature has been increased to 325 degrees F on your recipe and the time of cooking reduced to 1 1/2 hours. It worked out nicely for me at home, so I hope it does for you too.

My only other suggestion is to make your chili at least one day, if not two days before you really need it, because this will get the flavours to meld together, creating a much more flavourful pot of chili.

Have fun and keep cooking!



The best comfort food chili.

Submitted photo

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