

Blackberry Mint Iced Tea

3 cups fresh or frozen blackberries, thawed
1 1/2 cups sugar
fresh mint leaves
Pinch of baking soda (keeps tea from tasting bitter)
4 cups boiling water
2 family-size tea bags
2 1/2 cups cold water
Garnishes with fresh blackberries & fresh mint leaves

Combine blackberries and sugar in large container. Crush blackberries with wooden spoon.

Add mint and baking soda. Set aside.

Pour 4 cups boiling water over tea bags; cover and let stand 3 minutes. Discard tea bags.

Pour tea over blackberry mixture; let stand at room temperature 1 hour.

Pour tea through a wire-mesh strainer into a large pitcher, discarding solids and seeds.

Add 2 1/2 cups cold water, stirring until sugar dissolves.

Cover and chill until ready to serve.

Garnish, if desired.