Grandma's Homemade Potato Soup

From the Kitchen of <u>Deep South Dish</u>

INGREDIENTS

- 2 pounds russet potatoes, peeled and cut into large chunks (about 1-1/2 inch)
- 1/2 cup chopped sweet onion
- 1/2 cup chopped celery
- 3 tablespoons all purpose flour
- Kosher salt and freshly cracked black pepper, to taste
- 1/4 to 1/2 cup (1/2 to 1 stick) salted butter
- Water to cover
- 1 (12 ounce) can evaporated milk
- Shredded cheese, for garnish, optional

INSTRUCTIONS

- 1. Toss the potatoes with the onion, celery, flour and salt and pepper; set aside for about 10 minutes.
- 2. Meanwhile, melt the butter in a Dutch oven or soup pot. Add the potato mixture to the pot; stir to coat. Add enough water to cover the potatoes and bring to a boil; stir in the milk, reduce to a simmer, and cook, uncovered, stirring occasionally about 25 to 30 minutes, or until potatoes are tender.
- Taste, adjust salt and pepper, and continue cooking on simmer, uncovered, until the soup reach desired consistency and thickness. Garnish each serving with shredded cheese if you like and serve immediately.

NOTES

May substitute whole milk, or any milk you have on hand, however, I wrote it for evaporated milk because that is milk that has had 60% of the water removed and that makes for a much richer & creamier soup than regular whole milk. May also substitute green onion. Use an immersion blender or potato masher to puree the potatoes, if a less chunky texture is desired.

Variation: Brown several slices of bacon, set aside and crumble. Add the potato mixture and proceed with the recipe. Garnish with crumbled bacon.

Hamburger Potato Soup: Brown off ground beef; drain well. Proceed with recipe as above.

Potato Soup with Cajun Sausage: Slice one pound of andouille sausage into 1-inch slices and

brown in oil; remove and set aside. Add butter to pot and continue with recipe.

Cheesy Ham and Potato Soup: Add in 2 cups of smoked ham, cubed with the potatoes. Just

before serving, stir in 1-1/2 cups of shredded cheddar cheese, just until melted.

Instant Pot/Electronic Pressure Cooker: Prep potatoes as above and let rest. Use saute function

to melt butter, add potato mixture, toss to coat and top with water (or chicken broth) to cover,

plus an inch. Stir in half of the milk. Seal and cook on high for 10 minutes. Let pressure release

naturally. Open and mash some of the potatoes, if desired. Stir in remaining milk and any

additional chicken broth or water as needed to bring to desired consistency. Add cheese if using

and garnish as desired.

For the Slow Cooker: Add potatoes to slow cooker and top with onion and celery (omit flour).

Top with 2 cups of water or chicken broth. Cover and cook on low for 6 hours. Whisk together

the evaporated milk and flour. Stir into hot potatoes until fully incorporated, breaking up some of

the potatoes. Season with salt and pepper to taste. Return cooker to low, cover and cook an

additional 30 minutes.

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