

Creamy Vegan Mac and Cheese

By Kathleen Henry @ Produce On Parade Serves 4

I've made a lot of vegan mac and cheese. All kinds. If you can think it, I've probably made it: some good, some bad but this one is my absolute favorite. It also happens to be exceptionally easy. A staple in our house, I hope it will become one in your house as well. This vegan version is oil-free and oh so creamy and delicious. Inspired by BuzzFeed *A high powered blender works best. If you don't have one just soak the cashews in boiling water for 20 minutes prior to use.

Ingredients

- 2 medium yellow potatoes, peeled and diced
- 1 large garlic clove, peeled
- 1 large carrot, peeled and sliced
- 1/4 medium yellow onion, peeled and sliced
- ½ cup raw cashews*
- scant ¼ cup large-flake nutritional yeast
- 1 ½ tsp kosher salt
- 1 tsp garlic powder
- 1 tsp onion powder
- ½ tsp ground turmeric
- dash of freshly ground black pepper
- 12 oz dry pasta shells

Instructions

- 1. Bring a medium pot of water to boil for the vegetables. Boil the potatoes and garlic clove for 2 minutes. Add the carrots and boil for 5 additional minutes. Add the onion and boil for 7 additional minutes.
- 2. While the vegetables are boiling, add the remaining ingredients except the pasta to a blender. Drain the veggies saving the water ($1\frac{1}{2}$ cups), add them to a blender along with the saved water; blend on high until smooth and creamy. It makes about 4 cups of sauce.
- 3. Bring a large pot of salted water to boil for the pasta and cook according to the package. Drain and return to the pot. Stir 3 cups of the sauce into the cooked pasta, reserving 1 cup for stirring in later if all the mac and cheese won't be all eaten immediately. Serve hot.