Eggplant Lasagna

serves 6

A tasty, classic Eggplant Lasagna recipe made with roasted eggplant slices and without noodles. Comforting, cheesy, and low carb. You won't miss the pasta! The preparation only takes 20 minutes.

Ingredients

- 2 large eggplants sliced lengthwise 3/4-inch thick (about 8 slices)
- 3 1/2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil divided
- 1½ teaspoons kosher salt divided
- ½ teaspoon black pepper divided
- 16 ounces sliced mushrooms
- 3 cloves garlic *minced*
- 1/2 teaspoon dried oregano
- 1 (24-ounce) can prepared marinara-style pasta sauce
- 1 (15-ounce) container part-skim ricotta cheese
- 1 (10 ounce) package frozen chopped spinach thawed with excess water squeezed out
- 1/2 cup grated Parmesan divided
- 1 large egg
- 1 cup shredded part-skim mozzarella cheese
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh basil thyme, or parsley



Instructions

- Position racks in the upper and lower thirds of your oven. Preheat the oven to 400 degrees F. Lightly coat 2 rimmed baking sheets with nonstick spray. Coat a 9x13-inch baking dish with nonstick spray and set aside.
- Arrange sliced eggplant in a single layer on the 2 sheet pans—if some of your end-most eggplant slices are very curved, trim off the eggplant outermost curvy portion so that the slices lay mostly flat. Brush 2 1/2 tablespoons of the oil over both sides of all of the slices. Sprinkle 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt and 1/4 teaspoon pepper over the top.
- Roast the eggplant until it is soft and golden, about 25 minutes, flipping the slices over and swapping the pans' positions once halfway through. Remove the slices from the oven and reduce the oven temperature to 350 degrees F.
- Meanwhile, in a large skillet heat the remaining 1/2 tablespoon oil over medium heat. Add the sliced mushrooms. Saute until the mushrooms are soft, about 7 minutes. Add the minced garlic, next ½ teaspoon kosher salt, and oregano. Cook for another 2 minutes. Remove the pan from the heat. Add the marinara pasta sauce and stir to combine.
- In a large bowl add the ricotta, 1/4 cup Parmesan, egg, and remaining 1/2 teaspoon salt and remaining 1/4 teaspoon pepper. Mix well, until the mixture is evenly combined. Stir in the spinach, using a fork to break it up and distribute it as evenly with the ricotta mixture as possible.
- Spoon half of the mushroom marinara sauce on the bottom of the prepared baking dish and spread it into an even layer. Lay 4 eggplant slices on top followed by all of the ricotta mixture. Layer on another 4 slices of eggplant and finish with the remaining mushroom marinara sauce. Top with the mozzarella and remaining ½ cup Parmesan. Bake for 25 to 30 minutes, until the cheese is melted and the lasagna is hot and bubbly. Remove from the oven and sprinkle with fresh herbs. Let rest 5 to 10 minutes, then serve.

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