

Blackberry Iced Tea

Two refreshing summer drinks with poolside pizzazz!

Ingredients:

3 cups fresh or frozen blackberries, thawed
1 cup sugar
1 tablespoon chopped fresh mint
Pinch of baking soda
4 cups boiling water
3 family-size tea bags
2½ cups cold water or sparkling water
Garnishes: fresh blackberries, fresh mint sprigs

Directions:

1. Combine 3 cups blackberries and sugar in large container. Crush blackberries with wooden spoon. Add chopped mint and baking soda. Set aside.
2. Pour boiling water over tea bags, cover and let stand 3 minutes. Discard tea bags.
3. 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. Add cold or sparkling water, stirring until sugar dissolves. Cover and chill until ready to serve. Garnish, if desired.

Yield: 7 cups