<u>Hearty Meat Sauce</u> (Stove-top or Slow Cooker)

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Ingredients:

- 1 can chopped tomatoes (28 oz)
- 1 can stewed tomatoes (14 oz)
- 2 can tomato sauce (15 oz)
- 2 cans tomato paste (12 oz)
- 1/2 cup white wine
- 2 bay leaves
- 1 TBSP salt
- 3 TBSP sugar
- 2 tsp oregano
- 2 tsp garlic powder
- 2 tsp Italian seasoning
- 1 tsp basil
- 1/2 tsp pepper
- 1/2 tsp red pepper flakes
- 1 package (10 oz) frozen chopped onions
- 1 TBSP butter or margarine
- 1/2 lb mushrooms, cleaned and sliced
- 1 green pepper, cleaned and chopped
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 2# hamburg
- 1# hot sausage

Directions:

- *Place the first 15 ingredients into a large pot on medium or a large slow cooker on high.
- *In a skillet, melt the butter or margarine. Add the mushrooms, green pepper and garlic. Cook until the vegetables are soft. Add to the sauce in the pot.
- *In the same skillet, cook the hamburg and hot sausage until completely cooked through. Drain well and add to the sauce in the pot. Stir well.
- *Slow Cooker: Cook on high for one hour, reduce to low and cook for 3 to 4 hours, stirring about once an hour.
- *Stove-top: Bring to a boil over medium heat. Stir, reduce heat and simmer for 2 hours, stirring every half hour.
- *Remove the bay leaves and serve sauce over pasta of your choice. Leftovers freeze well. I use this sauce for my lasagna also.