









Black Bean Soup

Yields: 10 servings

Per serving: 348 calories, 22 g fat, 60 mg sodium, 9 g fiber, 9 g protein

Ingredients

- 1 lb. dried black beans
- 3 quarts water
- 2 bay leaves
- 1/2 –1 cup of the best extra virgin olive oil
- 1-2 large red bell peppers, seeded & chopped 2 shallots, chopped
- 1-2 onions chopped
 - 8 cloves garlic, chopped
- 8 cloves gariic, choppe
 1 tbsp. ground cumin
- 2 tbsp. dried oregano
- 2 tbsp. dried oregan
 - 1 tbsp. sugar
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 1 red onion, diced, for garnish (optional)
- 8 oz. sour cream, for garnish (optional)

Directions

- Place the beans in a nonreactive pan. Cover with 3 quarts of water, add bay leaves, and bring to a boil.
- Reduce the heat and simmer the beans for 2½ to 3 hours, stirring frequently and adding more water if necessary to keep them covered well.
- Meanwhile, heat the olive oil in a sauté pan or skillet. Sauté the bell
 peppers, shallots, and onions over medium heat until the onions are
 translucent (about 15 minutes.) Add the garlic, cumin, and dried
 oregano, and sauté for an additional 2 minutes. Remove from heat
 and let cool slightly.
- When the beans are almost tender, add the onion/pepper mixture, sugar, and salt to the beans and cook until just tender (20-30 minutes). Adjust the seasonings, garnish with red onion and sour cream, and serve.