

Weekly Recipe Challenge



Quinoa with Latin Flavors (courtesy of Eating Well)

Cilantro, lime and scallions lend a bright finish to delicate quinoa. This versatile side pairs well with seafood, poultry or pork.

6 servings (1 1/2 Carbohydrate Serving), 2/3 cup each | Active Time: 30 minutes | Total Time: 45 minutes



Ingredients

- 1 cup quinoa, (see Note)
- 2 teaspoons canola oil
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 4-ounce can chopped green chiles
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 14-ounce can reduced-sodium chicken broth, or vegetable broth
- 1/4 cup pepitas, toasted (see Note)
- 3/4 cup coarsely chopped fresh cilantro
- 1/2 cup chopped scallions
- 2 tablespoons lime juice
- 1/4 teaspoon salt

Notes: Quinoa, a delicately flavored grain that was a staple in the ancient Incas' diet, is available in most natural-foods stores and the natural-foods sections of many supermarkets. Toasting the grain before cooking enhances the flavor, and rinsing removes any residue of saponin, quinoa's natural, bitter protective coating.

Instructions

- 1. Toast quinoa in a large dry skillet over medium heat, stirring often, until it crackles and becomes aromatic, 3 to 5 minutes. Transfer to a fine sieve and rinse thoroughly.
- 2. Heat oil in a large saucepan over medium heat. Add onion and cook, stirring often, until softened, 2 to 3 minutes. Add chiles and garlic; cook, stirring, for 30 seconds.
- 3. Add the quinoa and broth; bring to a simmer.
- 4. Reduce heat to maintain a gentle simmer, cover and cook until the quinoa is tender and most of the liquid has been absorbed, 20 to 25 minutes.
- 5. Add pepitas, cilantro, scallions, lime juice and salt to the quinoa; mix gently and fluff with a fork.

Nutritional Information (per serving) Exchanges: 1 1/2 starch, 1 fat

- Calories 170
- Carbohydrates 23g (Fiber 3g
- Cholesterol 0mg
- Fat 6g (1g Saturated Fat; 2g Monounsaturated)
- Sodium 330mg
- Potassium 355mg
- **Protein** 7g

To toast nuts & seeds on the stovetop:

Toast in a small dry skillet over medium-low heat, stirring constantly, until fragrant and lightly browned, 3 to 5 minutes.