Wonders of Walking

JUDY HELLER (ACE) :: PERSONALIZED COACHING :: WALKING :: VITALITY

LIVE LIVES OF PEACE, BALANCE, PASSION AND PURPOSE

Source: 21-Day Weight Loss Kickstart by Neal Barnard, M.D.; recipe by Jason Wyrick of the Vegan Culinary Experience.

Cuban Black Bean and Potato Soup

Serves 4

This soup may only serve two because everyone always goes back for seconds and sometimes thirds!

1 onion, diced

1 red bell pepper, chopped

1 green bell pepper, chopped

6 cloves garlic, sliced

6 cups cooked black beans, low-sodium if canned

Water

1 tablespoon ground cumin

1 tablespoon chopped fresh oregano leaves

Bay leaf

2 tablespoons white wine vinegar

1/2 teaspoon salt

3 small potatoes, chopped

Diced red onion for garnish

Sauté the onion, peppers, and garlic over medium heat until they are soft. Puree the onion, garlic, and peppers, creating what is called a sofrito. Add about half the beans and puree these with the sofrito plus enough water to create a semi-thick soup. Return this to the pot and add the remaining ingredients (except the potatoes and garnish). Bring the soup to a simmer. Add the potatoes and continue simmering until they're soft. Remove the bay leaf (or eat around it). Garnish with diced red onion.

Making It Simple: Forgo pureeing the onion, garlic, and peppers and simply leave them intact in the pan. Next, add 1 16ounce can vegetarian refried beans and 2 16- ounce cans black beans instead of pureeing the beans as called for in the standard recipe. Add enough water to create a semi-thick soup and proceed as normal.

The Gourmet Touch: Use white balsamic vinegar instead of white wine vinegar.

Per serving:

• Calories: 407

Fat: 1.9 g

Saturated Fat: 0.3 q Calories from Fat: 3.9 g

Cholesterol: 0 mg Protein: 20 g

Carbohydrates: 80 g

Sugar: 5 g Fiber: 26 g

Sodium: 254 mg Calcium: 208 mg

Iron: 7.5 mg

Vitamin C: 63.4 mg Beta Carotene: 475 mcg

Vitamin E: 0.7 mg