

Easy Zucchini Lasagna

This lasagna is a delicious summer version of a popular comfort food that made its debut in Italy during the Middle Ages. Zucchini, also called "green Italian squash," is a highly anticipated spring vegetable in Italy, where it has been incorporated into numerous recipes.

Makes: 6 servings Cook time: 1 hour Prep time: 20 minutes

the ______ INGREDIENTS

2½ ounces mozzarella cheese, low-fat, shredded (2½ oz equals ½ cup plus 2 tablespoons)

- 1 cup cottage cheese, fat-free
- 3 tablespoons tomato paste, canned, low-sodium
- 1 cup tomato sauce, canned
- 1 teaspoon oregano, dried
- 1 teaspoon basil, dried
- 2⁵/8 ounces onions, fresh, peeled, ¼" diced
- (¹/₂ cup plus 1 tablespoon)
- 2 cloves garlic, fresh, minced
- (1 clove is about 1/2 teaspoon minced)
- ¼ teaspoon black pepper, ground

1½ cups zucchini, fresh, unpeeled, thinly sliced
3⅔ ounces lasagna noodles, enriched, oven ready

(6 sheets) **1 tablespoon** Parmesan cheese, fresh, shredded Nonstick cooking spray

the DIRECTIONS

- 1. Preheat oven to 350 °F.
- 2. Reserve 1/3 cup of mozzarella cheese, and set aside for later use.
- Make cheesy tomato sauce: combine remaining mozzarella cheese, cottage cheese, tomato paste, tomato sauce, oregano, basil, onions, garlic, and black pepper in a small bowl.
- Divide zucchini evenly into two parts, about ³/₄ cup.
- Lightly coat a medium baking dish (about 8" x 8") with nonstick cooking spray.
- 6. Assembly:

First layer. Spread ³/₄ cup of cheesy tomato sauce evenly on the bottom of each steam table pan. Cover sauce with 3 sheets of oven-ready lasagna noodles. Then, cover noodles with ³/₄ cup of zucchini slices.

Second layer. Repeat first layer.

Third layer. Top layers 1 and 2 with the remaining cheesy tomato sauce (about ³/₄ cup), and then finish by sprinkling on the reserved shredded mozzarella cheese (1/3 cup) and the Parmesan cheese (1 Tbsp).

- **7.** Cover tightly with foil, and bake until zucchini is tender, about 30 minutes.
- 8. Remove from oven.
- Remove foil, and bake uncovered until cheese starts to brown slightly, approximately 15 minutes. Heat to 140 °F for at least 15 seconds.
- **10.** Let lasagna stand 10 minutes before serving.
- **11.** Cut into 6 even pieces, Serve 1 piece.

Critical Control Point: Hold at 140 °F or higher.



the NUTRITION INFORMATION

IUTRITION INFORMATION

For 1 piece (2" x 3³/₄").

Nutrients	Amount
Calories	171
Total Fat	4 g
Saturated Fat	3 g
Cholesterol	14 mg
Sodium	434 mg
Total Carbohydrate	2 g
Dietary Fiber	2 g
Total Sugars	5 g
Added Sugars included	N/A
Protein	11 g
Vitamin D	N/A
Calcium	68 mg
Iron	2 mg
Potassium	N/A

N/A=data not available.

Source: Team Nutrition CACFP Multicultural Recipe Project.

https://teamnutrition.usda.gov

CACFP CREDITING INFORMATION

1 piece provides 1 oz equivalent meat alternate, ½ cup vegetable, and ½ oz equivalent grains.