Minestrone Soup







35 minutes

INGREDIENTS

- 1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 medium yellow onion, chopped
- 1 large leek, chopped
- 3 medium carrots, peeled and sliced
- 3 medium stalks celery, sliced, leaves reserved for garnish
- 2 tablespoons Italian seasoning
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon ground pepper
- 1 cup frozen peas
- 2 tablespoons unsalted tomato paste
- 6 cups reduced-sodium vegetable broth (or chicken bone broth)
- 1 (15-ounce) can no-salt-added chickpeas (or cannellini beans) , drained and rinsed
- $1(14\frac{1}{2}$ -ounce) can no-salt-added diced tomatoes, undrained (or three cups fresh tomatoes, diced)
- 1 medium zucchini, sliced into half-moons
- 2 cups frozen green beans
- 2 to 3 tablespoons fresh lemon juice



Minestrone Soup



DIRECTIONS

- 1. Heat oil in a large Dutch oven over medium heat. Add onion, leek, carrots, celery, garlic, Italian seasoning, salt and pepper; cook, stirring often, until the vegetables are tender, about 8 minutes.
- 2. Add tomato paste; cook, stirring constantly, until caramelized, about 1 minute.
- 3. Stir in broth, chickpeas, tomatoes and zucchini; bring to a boil over medium-high heat. Reduce heat to medium-low; simmer, undisturbed, for 20 minutes.
- 4. Stir in green beans and frozen peas, stir and cook, until the green beans are thoroughly heated, about 10 minutes.
- 5. Stir in lemon juice. Divide the soup among 6 bowls. Top with fresh basil leaves.

Refrigerate for up to 3 days or freeze for up to 2 months.

