

VEGGIE-PACKED PASTA SALAD

Serves: 8 Time: 30 minutes

Ingredients:

6 ounces Pasta (or Garbanzo Beans, Farro, Quinoa, etc.) 4 cups Assorted Veggies, cut into bite-sized pieces 1/2 cup Dressing of Choice

Sauce Options:

Herbed Oil & Vinegar (3T olive oil, 1T vinegar, 1 crushed garlic clove, 1t dried herbs, salt to taste) Pesto (1 cup fresh basil, 2T olive oil, 1T nut of choice, 1/4 cup Parmesan cheese)

Suggested Vegetables:

Green: Spinach, Cucumber, Asparagus, Bell Pepper, Onion

Red/Orange: Grape Tomatoes, Bell Pepper, Onion

Yellow/Orange: Carrots, Bell Pepper, Onion

Use any of your favorites! Try to include as many colors as you can!

Directions:

- 1. Bring a pot of water to boil. Salting water is optional.
- 2. Cook your pasta or grain of choice according to package directions. If using canned garbanzo beans, drain and rinse.
- 3. While your pasta is cooking, prepare dressing of choice. Oil and vinegar dressing can be made in the serving bowl or shaking in a mason jar. Pesto will require a food processor, blender or mortar and pestle.
- 4. Prepare your veggies. Rinse well to remove any surface dirt. Cut into bite-sized pieces.
- 5. Drain pasta and rinse well with cold water for about 1 minute until pasta is cooled.
- 6. Add pasta, dressing and veggies to a large bowl and toss well to combine.
- 7. Enjoy! Pasta salad will keep up to one week in the refrigerator.

Nutrition Facts: 137 calories, 6g fat, 1g saturated fat, 18g carb, 4g protein, 73mg sodium, 2g fiber

This recipe is great for using up odds-and-ends vegetables you need to use but aren't quite sure how! There are plenty of substitutions you can make and still have a delicious side dish - it is more of a starting point and inspiration recipe!

