# STEP-BY-STEP SOUP



Soup is a great way to clean out your fridge. It makes for an easy lunch or dinner. Leftovers can be frozen for up to three months.

PROTEIN 14 to 16 oz (1 pound)		VEGETA 2-3 cups t	<b>ABLES</b> otal, any combo, fresh or frozen
Cut into bite-sized pieces  Boneless skinless chicken (any kind) Beef (shoulder, round, or brisket) Pork (shoulder or butt) Canned chicken in water, drained Canned beans or lentils, drained & rinsed Extra-firm tofu, drained & cut in 1-inch cubes Frozen shelled edamame (soy beans), thawed & drained		Carrot, celery, mushroom, or onions, sliced or chopped Greens (spinach, kale, chard, collards), chopped Broccoli or cauliflower florets Tomatoes, diced or steamed Zucchini or yellow squash, sliced Canned, no salt added, drained & rinsed Tomato, diced Green beans Peas Mixed vegetables	
FLAVORINGS 1/2 - 1 teaspoon	GRAINS 1.5 cups cook	ed	<b>Liquid</b> 4 cups
Garlic, powder or minced Thyme, fresh or dried Parsley, fresh or dried Ginger, fresh or powder Cumin, ground Citrus zest, fresh or dried Hot peppers, ground	White or brown Pasta Instant barley Couscous Quinoa		☐ Water ☐ Low-sodium stock/broth

# **INSTRUCTIONS**

# If using meat or poultry as your protein:

#### 1. COOK GRAINS



Cook grains following package directions. While grains cook, continue to next step.

#### 2. BROWN PROTEIN



In a large soup pot over mediumhigh heat, heat 1 tablespoon oil. Add meat and flavor. Lightly brown meat, stirring occasionally, about 5 minutes. Set meat aside. Meat will finish cooking in soup.

#### 3. ADD VEGGIES



Add fresh veggies to pot, (save thawed/canned for step 5). Start with harder veggies first (e.g. carrots, broccoli). As they soften, add softer veggies (e.g., zucchini) and keep cooking.
Add additional flavoring here.
Cook time about 10 minutes.

# 4. ADD LIQUID



Add liquid and bring to a boil. Add meat. Reduce heat. Simmer for 25-30 minutes or until meat is cooked through, stirring occasionally.

## 5. ADD GRAINS



Add cooked grains and any thawed/canned veggies to pot during the last 5-7 minutes to warm.

# If using beans, lentils, or edamame as a protein:

Follow directions above, skip step 2.

Add beans, lentils, or edamame in step 4, and shorten total cooking time to 15 minutes.

## **CHEF NOTES**

- If using fresh herbs, add them at the end of cooking to keep them fresh.
- If you have leftover broth from a container, freeze it and add it to your soups or grains when you cook for added flavor.
- If you plan on using the soup for lunches, store grains separately from the soup. Add grains directly to your bowl instead of during cooking. When grains are stored in soup, they will absorb most of the liquid.

# LOWCOUNTRY FOOD BANK

This material was funded by USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program—SNAP.

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