Stuff winter squash with fall's fruitiest flavors

Winter squash, the season's nutritional gold mine, is also the source of a wide variety of delicious recipes. You can bake it, purce it, grate it, saute it and simmer it in soups and stews. Beyond all these uses, you can stuff squash with delightful fillings that can make it a wholesome side dish or a hearty entree. Different varieties of winter squash have their own distinctive flavors and uses. Acorn squash, with its moist, firm flets, holds its shape well. This, along with its moderate size, make it great for stuffing. Hubbard squash, particularly smaller varieties, also stuff well,

well, In general, when preparing stuffed aquash, preheat the oven to 376 degrees F., cut the squash in half and scoop out the seeds. Place the squash flesh side down in a baking dlah and pour in well of the part of the pan. Bake the squash for 30 minutes while you prepare the filling.

filting.

For microwave preparation, pierce each aquash in three to four places with a sharp knife, place them on a double layer of paper towels in the microwave, and cook on high for eight minutes or until just soft to the touch, rotating once during cooking. Let them stared for five minutes before cutters in helf.

M Acorn squash, with its moist, firm flosh, holds its shape well.

For filling, try a Mexican-atyle mixture of cooked and drained lean ground beef, diced onion, cel-ery and zucchini, quartered cherry lean ground beef, diced onton, celery and zucchini, quartered cherry
tomatoes and cooked kidney
beans, seasoned with chill powder, cumin, and thyme. Or, make
seasonal sutfing of leftover turkey, chopped raw cranberries,
diced onton and celery, and bread
crumbs, flavored with marjoram
and maple syrup.

For a meatless meal, stuff acors
aquash with a multi-grain pilaf
and diced papeys, seasoned with
tarragon.

Once the filling is prepared,
stuff into each squash half and
return them to the baking dish
(make sure there is still some water in the baking dish). Cover the
dish with foil and return to the
oven. Continue baking for one
hour or until just tender.

For microwave, preparation,
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hour or until just tender.
For microwave preparation, place the filled halves on a microwavable plate and cover loosely with wax paper or vented plastic wrap. Microwave on high for four to aix minutes, or until heated through. Let them stand, covered, for two minutes.
Stuffed Winter Squash produc-

es a delicious stuffing, full of the season's fruitlest flavors — apple, cranberry and orange.

STUFFED WINTER SQUASH

- 1 winter squash
 2 cups of apple (chopped or
- canned)
 1 cup of ground cranb
 1 sectioned orange

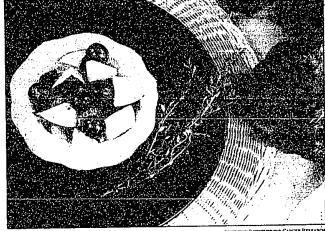
Vs cup of raisins
Vs cup of brown sugar
2 teaspoons margarine

2 teaspoons margarine
Halve the winter squash lengthwise and scrape out the seeds and
strings portion. Place both halves
with the cut aide down in a baking
dish with ¼ cup of water covering
the bottom of the pan. Bake in the
oven at 350 degree F. for one bount.
While the squash is baking, mix
the other ingredients in a bowl.
Stuff the baked equash with the
fruit mixture and bake at 350 degrees F, for an additional 20-30
minutes or until the squash is tender.

minutes or until the squash is tem-der.

Bach of the 4 servings contains
31 calories and 3 grams of fat.

Recipe and information supplied by the American Institute for Can-cer Research. For a free brochure on other healthy and feative recipes, send for a free brochure about "Octe-brate Good Health." Send a stomped (55 cents) sell-addressed orate Good Heath. Send a stamped (55 cents), self-addressed envelope to the American Institute for Cancer Research, Dept. GH, Washington, DC 20069.



Stuffed squash: Full of fall's fruitiest flavors — apple, cranberry and orange — stuffed-winter squash is a season delight.

Eat lots of fall's crisp apples, they're so good for you



Apples are a favorite fruit be-cause of their delicious flavor, year-round avail-ability, variety and versatility in

THELEM and or said with the representation. An apple contains almost no fat or sodium, they are high in complex carbohydrates, contain fiber, potassium, trace minerals, Vitamins A and C, and many other vital nutrients. What's not to like about an apple, they are good for you. Dictary research shows that apples may have many health benefits. Apples may actually help reduce serum cholesterol, high blood pressure, and the risk of colon cancer, and strokes. Apples can hiso play an important role in weight control because the fiber

gives you a full satisfied feeling after enting. Of course, these items are true when eating raw apples, not necessarily when esting apple pie. Apples are also called nature's toothbrush as theyefresh the breath and teeth and massage the gums.

Apples can be eaten fresh, baked, stir-fried, canned, frozen or used as a garnish. There are many varieties so before buying apples decide how you are going to use them.

The best fresh eating apples are Macintosh, Cortland, Jonathan, Red and Golden Delicious, Winesap, and Ida Reds.

Apple pie is best made from Jonathan, Macintosh, Rome Beauty, Nonhem: Spy, Ida Red, Empire and Winesap, When baking all will work fine. For cooking choose a firm, tart apple. Bruised

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apples can be used for jelly, apple butter, applesauce or cider.

When cooking apples use very little water so that more vitamina re retained within the fruit. The cover the pane but the natural aroma, add a little spice or lemon to the apples. Cover the pan but do not overtook. Adding augur also serves butter, and the panel of the control of the co

in the refrigerator to retain freshness and crispness. They ripen 10 times faster at room temperature than when kept chilled. Pat them in tightly closed bags to prevent absorption of food odors and to maintain humidity. Apples also give off ethylene gas so do not store near letture, celery or broccoll, the gas will cause vegetables to rust. If you're storing apples in your garage, protect them with a blanket if it gets too cold. Apples like it cool but not below freezing. Mealiness in stored apples may denote too long or improper storage.

Since apples can be stored for a long period of time, buy a quantity. Three medium apples (one pound) make one-and-one-helf cups of applesauce. Six to eight medium apples makes a nine-inch pie, 46 medium-sixed apples is one peck and one bushel will make 16-20 quarts of applesauce. Everyone has their own favorite apple pie recipe so here are some other ways to add apples to your meals.

other ways to add apples to your meals.
Add one half cup grated apples to each two cups of mashed aquash, sweet potatoes or paranjas to give them more flavor and flair. This is great served with roast yeal, lamb or pork.
A quick low-calorie dessert can be a cored apple microwaved in a little apple eider. Add apple slices to the hot breakfast cered when microwaving in the morning.
Freezing apples or applesauce

is very easy. Select a firm, crisp apple, avoid any with a mealy texture. After washing, peeling and coring, drop into ascorbic acid such as lemon juice to help keep their color. If you want chunky applesauce, peel and cut up the sizes you want to cook, while for smooth sauce, run the cooked apple, akin and core through a sieve (cooking the red skin will make a beautiful juik applesauce). Use augar aparingly or you'll ruin a good thing. Pie filling ingredients can be mixed with the apples and forcer in amounts used for individual pies.

Michigan produces area of the

vidual pies.
Michigan produces some of the
best apples of course, eat them everydny.

Lois Thieleke of Birmingham is an extension home economist for the Cooperative Extension Ser-vice, Oakland County office.



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