



pilot light

Greg
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Barbecue in Winter

The true test of any recipe is in the tasting. But I'm getting ahead of myself.

Barbecue, in many parts of the country, is a seasonal affair. It doesn't have to be.

Frankly, I am not fond of the outdoor grill for several reasons, especially because the cook is left out in the cold when it comes to other activities.

In the kitchen, a simple two-step operation will produce tasty pork spareribs: simmer the meat in water to remove some fat and brown in the oven with your favorite barbecue sauce.

A zesty barbecue sauce can make or break ribs. MY WIFE WAS less than confident when I announced I was going to try a different sauce. Fearing our guests would find it a bit too tart, she tasted half the ribs with a bottled version.

I was not offended. I figured that taste would triumph.

"Let me try the other kind," one guest said.

"I'll try it, too," her teenage son chimed in.

My wife just smiled.

Anita didn't spare my ribs either.

TWICE COOKED PORK SPARERIBS

5 pounds pork spareribs
Alabama barbecue sauce

Cut ribs in serving portions, place in large pot, cover with water, leave lid slightly ajar and cook on medium low heat 40 minutes. Drain ribs, place on rack in baking pan and cook in 350° oven, turning and basting with barbecue sauce until desired doneness. Serves 6-7.

ALABAMA BARBECUE SAUCE

2 tbsp cooking oil
1 onion, minced
1 large garlic clove, minced
1/2 cup catsup
1/2 cup elder vinegar
1/2 cup honey
1/2 cup Worcestershire sauce
2 tsp dry mustard
1 tsp ground ginger
1 tsp salt
Juice of 1 lemon

Heat oil in medium saucepan over medium low heat, add onion and garlic and saute until onion is limp. Mix catsup, vinegar, honey and Worcestershire and add to pan, stir in remaining ingredients and cook 15 minutes, occasionally stirring.

(Readers are invited to send questions, suggestions or comments about food, cooking and shopping to Pilot Light, Greg Melikov, 650 NW 153rd St., Miami, Fla. 33169. Enclose self-addressed stamped envelope for individual replies.)

Corn-burger Taco Pie can stretch food dollars

CORN-BURGER TACO PIE
CRUST
1 cup all purpose flour
1/2 cup cornmeal
3-oz. can french fried onions, crushed
1/2 cup margarine or butter, melted
1/4 cup water
FILLING
1 lb. ground beef
1 1/2-oz. envelope taco seasoning mix
1/2 cup water
12-oz. can whole kernel corn, drained
1 cup shredded lettuce
2 oz. (1/2 cup) shredded cheddar cheese

1 medium tomato, chopped

Heat oven to 375°F. In medium bowl, combine flour, cornmeal and french fried onions. Add margarine and 1/4 cup water. Stir until dough holds together. Press in bottom and up sides of ungreased 9 or 10-inch pie pan. Bake at 375° for 20 to 25 minutes or until light golden brown.

In large skillet, brown ground beef; drain. Stir in taco seasoning mix and 1/4 cup water; simmer 15 to 20 minutes, stirring occasionally until liquid is reduced. Stir in corn; cook until thoroughly heated. Spread mixture into baked crust. Top with lettuce, cheddar cheese and tomato. 6 servings.

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