How to Cook High Protein-High Fiber Pasta



TIPS:

1. The edamame (green soybean) and black soybean pastas shown here are just two examples of the many alternatives to traditional wheat-based pasta.



Although there is nothing wrong with wheat-based pasta, as long as your body tolerates gluten (wheat protein), these two pasta alternatives, among others, are lower in carbohydrates and higher in both protein and fiber than...



...traditional wheat-based pasta, as shown in the nutrition label comparisons above and below.



Traditional pasta

2. How much water do you really need to cook

pasta? Cooking instructions on pasta packages usually call for using big pot filled with water to cook about 1 pound of pasta, but that's not necessary. Heating a huge pot of water takes a lot of time and energy. All you really need is a medium sized (3-4 quart) pot filled 2/3 - 3/4 full with water to cook 1 pound of pasta.



3. **Serving Size:** Plan to use 1 ounce of dry pasta per person as a side dish and 2 ounces of dry pasta per person as a main dish. To get a visual idea, here is how 2 ounces of high protein-high fiber pasta look that will make enough for 4 servings as a side dish or 2 servings as a main dish.



Cooking Time: 10-20 minutes, including time to bring water to a boil, depending on pasta type

Needed (for 4 or more people)

1/2 Pound of High Protein-High Fiber Pasta 1/2 - 1 Teaspoon Salt (optional - adds flavor to pasta)

Medium (3-4 quart) Pot Timer

Big Spoon Colander or Strainer



1. Fill a medium sized pot 2/3 - 3/4 full with **cold tap** water.



Put the pot on the stove, and turn on the burner to

HIGH heat.





2. Let the water come to a rapid, big bubble boil as shown in the **full boil** photo below left, not just a small bubble "soda fizz" boil shown in the **NOT a full boil** photo below right, to help ensure the **pasta** cooks properly to desired doneness.







NOT a full boil

3. When the water comes to a full boil, add about as much **salt** as shown here (optional but adds flavor to pasta) and...



...1/4 pound (4 ounces) of pasta.



4. Set a timer for the **pasta** cooking time suggested in the cooking directions on the **pasta package** according to desired doneness. **NOTE:** As **pasta** will continue to absorb moisture even after cooking, I set a timer for the shortest cooking time recommended on the **pasta**

package. As circled below, I set a timer for 3 minutes to cook edamame spaghetti and 4 minutes to cook black soybean pasta.



pasta

pasta

5. Stir the **pasta** just as it starts to cook to ensure that the pasta pieces don't stick together or to the bottom of the pot. Then...



...let the water return to a full boil, and...



...turn the burner heat down to MEDIUM to allow a gentle boil and to keep the hot water from boiling over the pot.



6. While the **pasta** cooks, put a colander or strainer in the sink.



7. When the timer sounds, carefully pour the **cooked pasta** into the colander or strainer in the sink WITHOUT rinsing with cold water and...



...serve warm.



8. Store **leftover high protein-high fiber pasta** (like any other pasta) in a covered container and...





...refrigerate for up to 1 week.



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