Vegan Butternut Squash Soup

SERVINGS PREP TIME COOK TIME TOTAL TIME
6-8 5 MIN 40 MIN 45 MIN

Enjoy the velvety-smooth richness of this Vegan Butternut Squash Soup, where sweet apples and aromatic spices blend into a thick, creamy, and deeply comforting bowl of fall flavor.



ORGANIZING

Ingredients	Directions a Plant Based Life.com
•Olive Oil •1 Medium Onion •2 T Minced Garlic	 ■ Heat a generous drizzle of olive oil in a 6-quart stockpot over medium heat. ■ Dice the onion and sauté for about 5 minutes, stirring often, until soft. ■ Add the minced garlic, stir to combine, and cook for another 1–2 minutes, stirring frequently to prevent burning.
•1 Apple •½ (16 oz) Bag Baby Carrots (or about 1 Cup Diced Carrots) •2 lb Pre-cut Butternut Squash (or 1 medium whole squash)	 WHILE ONIONS ARE COOKING ■ Peel, core, and dice the apple. ■ Cut the carrots into halves or thirds. ■ Add the apple, carrots, and squash to the pot, and stir to combine. ☆ Pre-cut squash makes prep a breeze! If using a whole squash, peel, seed, and cut into 1-inch cubes.
•1 (15oz) Can Garbanzo Beans	■ Drain and rinse the beans, then add them to the pot.
•2 tsp Thyme •1 Bay Leaf •1 tsp Salt •½ tsp Pepper •½ tsp Cinnamon •¼ tsp Cayenne Pepper	■ Add all the spices to the pot and stir well to coat the vegetables evenly. ■ Let the mixture cook for about 5 minutes, allowing the spices to bloom and deepen in flavor.
•1 (32oz) Container Vegetable Broth •1 Can Reduced Fat Unsweetened Coconut Milk OPTIONAL TO SERVE WITH: •Pumpkin Seeds	 ■ Pour in the vegetable broth and coconut milk, stirring to combine. ■ Bring the mixture to a gentle boil, then reduce heat and simmer for about 30 minutes. ■ Turn off the heat and let the soup cool for 5 minutes. ■ Remove the bay leaf. ■ Carefully blend the soup with an immersion blender until smooth. If you don't have one, let it cool a bit longer and blend in batches using a regular blender, or mash by hand for a more rustic texture. ■ Taste and adjust the seasonings as needed.

OPTIONAL INSTANT POT INSTRUCTIONS: Add all ingredients except the coconut milk to the pressure cooker. Set to High Pressure for 8 minutes and start. When cooking is complete, carefully release the pressure. Blend the soup with an immersion blender until smooth, then stir in the coconut milk to finish.