## **Vegan Stuffed Acorn Squash**

SERVINGS PREP TIME COOK TIME TOTAL TIME 6 15 MIN 60 MIN 1 HR 15 MIN

Naturally sweet oven roasted acorn squash filled with a flavorful and nutritious stuffing of lentils, wild rice, and fresh aromatic vegetables then finished with a walnut cranberry twist.



Ingredients	Directions  ORGANIZING a Plant Based Life.com
Olive Oil	<ul> <li>PREPARE STUFFING</li> <li>■ Drizzle olive oil into a large skillet over medium heat.</li> <li>■ Dice the onion, celery, and carrots, then add them to the pan.</li> <li>■ Cook for about 10 minutes, stirring frequently, until the vegetables begin to soften.</li> </ul>
•1 T Italian Seasoning •1 T Nutritional Yeast •1 tsp EACH Garlic Powder, Dried Sage, Thyme, Nutmeg, Salt •½ tsp Pepper	■ Add all seasonings to the pan. Stir well and cook for about 2 minutes to let the flavors blend.
•1 Quart (32 oz) Box Vegetable Broth •1 Cup Dried Whole Green Lentils •½ Cup Wild Rice Blend	■ Pour in the vegetable broth and stir to combine. Bring the mixture to a boil. ■ Add the lentils and wild rice blend, stirring well. Cover, reduce heat to low, and let simmer for 45–50 minutes, stirring occasionally, until the lentils are tender. Start checking around 40 minutes and adjust as needed, cooking time may vary slightly.
•Olive Oil •3 Acorn Squash •Sprinkle of Salt & Pepper	PREPARE ACORN SQUASH  ■ Preheat the oven to 400°F.  ■ Wash the outside of each squash to remove any dirt.  ■ Cut each squash in half and scoop out the seeds & stringy center, discard.  ■ Drizzle a small amount of olive oil inside each squash half. Use your hands or a brush to spread the oil evenly over the orange flesh.  ■ Sprinkle lightly with salt and pepper. Place the squash halves cut side down on a parchment-lined baking sheet.  ■ Roast for about 40 minutes, checking for tenderness at 35 minutes. The squash should be easily pierced with a fork but still hold its shape.
•½ Cup Walnuts •½ Cup Dried Cranberries  Optional: •Handful Fresh Parsley	AFTER LENTILS ARE COOKED TO DESIRED TENDERNESS  ■ Taste the lentil and rice mixture and adjust the seasoning as needed. ■ Roughly chop the walnuts, then add them along with the dried cranberries to the mixture. Stir well to combine and heat through for another 5 minutes. ■ To serve, spoon the stuffing into the roasted acorn squash halves. Sprinkle with fresh parsley, if desired, for a pop of color.

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