



This hearty crowd-pleaser feeds 2x the folksperfect for a family dinner + leftovers!

# **CHEESY CHICKEN ENCHILADA PASTA BAKE**

with Fajita-Spiced Bell Pepper & Onion



PREP: 20 MIN COOK: 60 MIN CALORIES: 890



# FLAVOR SAVOR

We love leftovers! Refrigerate pasta in an airtight container; reheat on a microwave-safe plate until warmed through, 2–3 minutes.

#### **BUST OUT**

Large bowl

Aluminum foil

Baking sheet

Whisk

- Large pot
- Baking dish
- Strainer
- Large pan
- Kosher salt
- Black pepper
- Nonstick cooking spray
- Cooking oil (2 tsp | 2 tsp)



#### **4 WHISK SAUCE**

 In a large bowl, whisk together cream sauce base, diced tomatoes, stock concentrate, half the Tex-Mex paste, and two packets of Mexican cheese blend (all the Tex-Mex paste and four packets of Mexican cheese blend for 8 servings).



### 1 PREP

- Adjust rack to middle position (top and middle positions for 8 servings) and preheat oven to 425 degrees. Bring a large pot (two large pots for 8) of salted water to a boil. Wash and dry produce.
- Trim and thinly slice **scallions**, separating whites from greens. Halve, peel, and thinly slice **onion**. Halve, core, and thinly slice **bell pepper**.
- Generously coat a 9-by-13-inch baking dish (two 9-by-13-inch baking dishes for 8) with nonstick cooking spray and set aside.



### 2 COOK PASTA

- Once water is boiling, add **penne** to pot (for 8 servings, divide between two large pots or cook in batches). Cook, stirring occasionally, until al dente, 9-11 minutes.
- Reserve 1/2 cup pasta cooking water (1 cup for 8), then drain.



- Meanwhile, open package of chicken\* and drain off any excess liquid. Heat a large drizzle of oil in a large pan over high heat. Add chicken, scallion whites, onion, and bell pepper in a single layer; season with Fajita Spice Blend, salt, and pepper.
- Cook, stirring occasionally, until chicken is browned and cooked through and onion is tender, 4-6 minutes. TIP: Depending on the size of your pan, you may need to work in batches, adding another drizzle of oil for each batch. Be sure not to overcrowd the pan for even browning!



## **5 ASSEMBLE PASTA BAKE**

- Transfer **drained penne** and **chicken mixture** to bowl with **sauce**; stir to thoroughly combine. TIP: If sauce seems too thick, add splashes of reserved pasta cooking water until everything is thoroughly coated.
- Transfer pasta mixture to prepared baking dish (divide between two prepared baking dishes for 8 servings).
- Cover baking dish tightly with foil; set on top of a foil-lined baking sheet (two baking sheets for 8). (The sheet will help protect your oven from any sauce that may bubble over!)



#### 6 BAKE PASTA BAKE

- Bake on middle rack until bubbly, 30 minutes (bake on top and middle racks for 8 servings). TIP: Lift the foil carefully to check on the pasta bakethere might be some steam!
- Remove sheet with baking dish from oven. Carefully remove and discard foil from baking dish; stir **pasta bake**.
  Sprinkle with **remaining Mexican cheese blend**; return sheet with baking dish to oven and bake, uncovered, until cheese melts, 3-5 minutes more.



#### 7 FINISH & SERVE

- Let **pasta bake** rest at least 5 minutes before serving.
- Garnish with **scallion greens** and serve family style directly from baking dish.

\*Chicken is fully cooked when internal temperature reaches 165°