



EPIC NACHO MAC 'N' CHEESE

with a Tortilla Chip Topping, Green Pepper & Smoky Red Pepper Crema



PREP: 5 MIN COOK: 25 MIN CALORIES: 1070



HELLO

TORTILLA CHIP TOPPING

Crushed blue corn tortilla chips add a satisfying crunch.

PASTA-BILITIES

To check if your cavatappi is al dente (Italian for "to the tooth"), bite into one! It should be tender with a firm center.

BUST OUT

- Medium pot
 Strainer
- Small bowl
 Medium pan
- Kosher salt
- Black pepper
- Cooking oil (1 tsp | 1 tsp)
- Butter (2 TBSP | 3 TBSP)
 Contains: Milk

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1 PREP & MIX CREMA

- Heat broiler to high. Bring a medium pot of **salted water** to a boil. **Wash and dry produce.**
- Core, deseed, and dice green pepper into ½-inch pieces. Trim and thinly slice scallions, separating whites from greens. Peel and mince garlic.
- Place **smoky red pepper crema** in a small bowl. Add **water** 1 tsp at a time until mixture reaches a drizzling consistency. Season with **salt** and **pepper**.



2 COOK PASTA

• Once water is boiling, add **cavatappi** to pot. Cook, stirring occasionally, until al dente, 9-11 minutes. Drain.



3 START SAUCE

- While pasta cooks, heat a drizzle of oil in a medium, preferably ovenproof, pan (use a large, preferably ovenproof, pan for 4 servings) over medium heat. Add green pepper and season with salt and pepper. Cook, stirring, until softened, 4-5 minutes.
- Add Southwest Spice Blend, scallion whites, garlic, and 2 TBSP butter
 (3 TBSP for 4); cook, stirring, until butter has melted and scallion whites are softened, 1 minute.
- Add ground beef* or organic ground
 beef* to pan along with green pepper. Cook, breaking up meat into pieces, until green pepper is softened and beef is browned and cooked through, 4-6 minutes. Cook through the rest of this step as instructed.



4 FINISH SAUCE

- Stir flour into pan until smooth and incorporated, 1 minute. Gradually stir in ½ cup water (¾ cup for 4 servings) until fully combined.
- Add **cream cheese** and cook, stirring, until fully incorporated and sauce has thickened, 1-2 minutes.
- Turn off heat; stir in **cheddar** until melted and smooth. Taste and season with **salt** and **pepper**.



5 MIX & BROIL MAC 'N' CHEESE

- Stir drained cavatappi into pan with sauce until coated. Taste and season with salt if needed. If mixture is too thick, add a splash more water. TIP: If your pan isn't ovenproof, transfer mixture now to a baking dish.
- Using your hands, crush tortilla chips and evenly sprinkle over mac 'n' cheese.
 Top with an even layer of Mexican cheese blend.
- Broil until cheese melts, 2-3 minutes. TIP: Watch carefully to avoid burning.



6 SERVE

 Drizzle mac 'n' cheese with smoky red pepper crema. Top with scallion greens and as much hot sauce as you like. Serve.