Chicken Korma

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Ingredients

1/2 cup almond slices or slivers 2 teaspoons ground cumin 1 teaspoon ground coriander 1/2 teaspoon ground cardamom 1 teaspoon cayenne pepper 1 teaspoon paprika 1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon 1/4 teaspoon ground cloves 2 tablespoons vegetable oil 1 medium onion, finely diced 2 cloves garlic, minced 2 teaspoons minced or grated ginger 1 1/2 pounds boneless, skinless chicken thighs or breasts, cut into 1-inch cubes 1 1/2 cups plain yogurt 1 dried bay leaf 2 teaspoons light brown sugar 1/2 teaspoon salt, plus more if needed 1/8 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper 1 tablespoon chopped cilantro (if needed)

Directions

Grind 1/2 of the almonds in a spice grinder or with a mortar and pestle, reserving the other half until Step 4.

In a small bowl, combine the ground almonds, cumin, coriander, cardamom, cayenne pepper, paprika, cinnamon, and cloves.

Heat the vegetable oil in a large skillet (14" is ideal) or Dutch oven over medium-high heat. Add the onion and sauté until translucent and golden, about 5 minutes. Add the garlic and ginger and cook for another minute. Add the chicken and sauté, stirring occasionally, until it's mostly white, about 2 minutes. Add the almond-spice mix and stir to coat the chicken and onions.

Add the yogurt, bay leaf, and brown sugar and allow the chicken to simmer for another 3 to 4 minutes, until the chicken is fully cooked and the sauce has thickened. Add the salt and pepper and adjust with more salt if needed. Transfer to a serving dish, garnish with the remaining almond slices and chopped cilantro, and serve.