Italian Minestrone Soup 2

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Ingredients

1 cup minced onion 1 cup minced celery 1 cup minced carrot 1/4 cup butter OR margarine 48 oz. can tomato juice 6 cups water 1/2 cup garbanzo beans 1/2 cup kidney beans 1/2 cup dried split peas 1/2 cup dried lentils 3/4 cup sliced carrots 3/4 cup chopped onion 3/4 cup sliced celery 3/4 cup chopped bell pepper 1/2 cup rice OR barley 2 Tbsp. minced fresh parsley 1 tsp. dried oregano 1 tsp. dried basil 2 tsp. soy sauce black pepper - to taste 1 cup shell macaroni - un-cooked Parmesan cheese - to top

Directions

In a large pot, sauté onion, celery, and carrot in butter until browned.

Add tomato juice, water, garbanzo beans, kidney beans, dried peas, and lentils; bring to a boil.

Simmer over low heat for $2 - 2 \frac{1}{2}$ hours, until everything is tender.

Add remaining ingredients, except cheese and pepper; simmer for 40 minutes.

Season with pepper, add the macaroni, and simmer for 20 minutes.

Ladle into bowls and sprinkle with Parmesan cheese.