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Pasta with Asparagus and Lemon Balm Pesto

This was a delicious meal which will probably be our last of the asparagus season. The lemon balm pesto was delicious.

for the pasta:

- 2 cups wholewheat penne
- 1 bunch fresh asparagus
- 1 cup lemon balm pesto

for the pesto:

- 2 cups fresh lemon balm leaves
- 1 cup fresh parsley leaves
- 2 cloves garlic
- 1/4 cup raw cashews, soaked
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 1/4 cup nutritional yeast
- juice of 1 lemon

salt and pepper to taste

Method

1 to make the pesto: Place the lemon balm, parsley, oil and lemon juice in a food processor or blender and pulse to puree.

2. Drain the cashew nuts, add to the food processor and pulse again to puree.

3 Add the garlic, nutritional yeast and any liquid that may be needed to aid the machine.

- **4** Season to taste with salt and pepper.
- **5 to make the pasta:** Clean and cut the asparagus into 1-2 inch pieces..



Servings/Yield

2 servings

Difficulty

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Categories

Condiments, Healthy, High Fiber, Pasta, Sauces, Vegan

- 6 Place in a small pot of boiling water and cook al dente.
- **7** Bring a large pot of lightly salted water to boil and cook the pasta.
- 8. Drain the asparagus when done, and plunge into cold water to stop the cooking process.
- **9** When the pasta is done, drain.
- **10.** Add the lemon balm pesto and mix well.
- **11** Add the asparagus and carefully mix.
- **12.** Serve the pasta in individual bowls.

Notes



The pesto makes a delicious sandwich spread or dip for vegetables also.