#### **Homemade Mac & Cheese**

Makes 6 servings

## Ingredients:

3 tablespoons butter

3 tablespoons all-purpose flour

2 cups low-fat milk

1 teaspoon dry mustard

1/8 teaspoon onion powder

dash cayenne pepper (optional)

Salt and pepper (to taste)

½ pound whole wheat pasta (such as elbows, penne, fusilli), uncooked

1 ½ cups shredded low-fat sharp cheddar cheese

½ cup grated Parmesan cheese

# **Directions**:

- 1. Preheat oven to 350°F.
- 2. Cook pasta according to package directions.
- 3. Meanwhile, in a heavy saucepan, melt butter over medium heat. Add flour and cook, whisking constantly about 3 to 4 minutes.
- 4. Add milk slowly while whisking and bring to a boil, stirring constantly.
- 5. Add mustard, onion powder, cayenne, salt and pepper and simmer, stirring occasionally until thickened, about 5 minutes.
  - Remove from heat and stir in both cheeses until melted.
- 6. In an oven-safe dish, combine cooked pasta and cheese sauce. Cover dish lightly with foil and back 15 minutes or until bubbly. Serve.

<u>Nutrient analysis per serving</u>: Calories 310, Protein 18 grams, Carbohydrates 35 grams, Fat 11 grams, Sodium 410 milligrams, Fiber 3 grams



# **Pasta with Tomatoes and Chickpeas**

Makes 8 servings

## Ingredients:

1 pound ripe, fresh tomatoes, finely chopped

1 garlic clove, minced

Salt and pepper (to taste)

- 1 teaspoon balsamic vinegar (optional)
- 1 tablespoon chopped fresh basil (or 1 teaspoon dried basil)
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 (15-ounce) can chickpeas, drained and rinsed
- 1 pound whole wheat pasta (any shape), uncooked
- 1/4 cup shredded cheese (try cheddar, Monterey Jack, parmesan or feta)

### Directions:

- 1. Combine tomatoes, garlic, salt, pepper, balsamic vinegar, basil, and olive oil in a medium bowl. Let sit for 15 minutes.
- 2. Stir in chick peas.
- 3. Meanwhile, bring a large pot of water to a rolling boil. Add a generous amount of salt and the pasta. Cook al dente, until the pasta is firm to the bite. Drain.
- 4. Toss with pasta with chickpea sauce, sprinkle on cheese, and serve.

Make ahead: You can make the sauce a few hours ahead of serving.

<u>Nutrient analysis per serving</u>: Calories 300, Protein 12 grams, Carbohydrates 52 grams, Fat 6 grams, Sodium 240milligrams, Fiber 7 grams



#### Chicken Broccoli Alfredo

Makes 6 servings

### Ingredients:

Alfredo sauce:

3 tablespoons butter (or olive oil)

3 tablespoons all-purpose flour

2 cups low-fat milk

1 no-sodium chicken bouillon cube

½ cup grated parmesan cheese

1 pound whole wheat fettuccine noodles (or other shape), cooked according to package directions

1 tablespoon olive oil

2 cups chicken, chopped

1 cup chopped broccoli, fresh or frozen

1 cup sliced mushrooms

½ cup grated parmesan cheese

Salt and pepper (to taste)

# Directions:

- Prepare Alfredo sauce melt butter in saucepan. Add flour and blend together. Slowly add milk, stirring until well blended. Add bouillon cube. Stir over low heat until sauce thickens, about 5 minutes.
  - Remove from heat and stir in cheese. Set aside.
- 2. Heat oil in large skillet. Add chicken, broccoli and mushrooms. Stir and cook until chicken is no longer pink, about 5 to 7 minutes. Add a small amount of water if skillet becomes dry.
- 3. Add cooked noodles and Alfredo sauce to skillet. Stir until pasta is well coated.
- 4. Sprinkle with parmesan cheese, salt and pepper. Serve hot.

<u>Nutrient analysis per serving</u>: Calories 330, Protein 17 grams, Carbohydrates 48 grams, Fat 9 grams, Sodium 180 milligrams, Fiber 8 grams

