Chicken, Leek & Potato Soup

Ingredients

- 500g Potato
- 100g Leek (1 medium)
- 50g Diced Onion (1 Mug)
- 170g- 200g Pack of cooked chicken pieces
- 1 Knorr Chicken Stock Cube
- 1 litre Cold Water
- Salt and Pepper

Options

 You can use fresh chicken but it's a lot of hassle for such a small amount. Maybe ok if you have a lot of fresh chicken for other dishes and you have a spare breast that you can dice!

Equipment

- Sharp knife
- Potato Peeler
- Large Saucepan
- Kitchen Scales, but not really needed as it's easy to guess the quantities "close enough".
- Spatula

Preparation

- Get the ingredients and equipment to hand.
- Peel and dice potato but don't forget to wash it thoroughly to reduce the starch and scum in the soup! You want to have a mixture of large and small pieces so they cook at different rates. See Techniques section on next page.
- Halve, wash and slice the leek.
- Dice the onion, but it is much easier to use frozen diced onion.

Method

Pop the rough diced potatoes in the large saucepan and add the water.

Add the stock cube.

Bring to the boil and simmer for 15 minutes.

Add the leek and onion and, if necessary, add more water to just cover the vegetables.

Keep an eye on this. Note that you may need to top up with a little boiling water from the kettle.

Taste and season with salt or pepper if required.

Return to the boil and simmer for a further 15 minutes or until all the vegetables are soft.

Break up the chicken pieces and add to the pot. Return to the boil - but turn off the heat a minute or two after that.

You want a soup, not stovies, so you may need to top up the water to be sure there is still plenty of liquid at the end.

That's it – nice and simple and a great change to the traditional leek & potato soup.

Notes

There is a lot of waste when peeling potatoes — I've seen it as much as 25% of the gross weight. You need to buy a 1Kg bag of potatoes to guarantee 750g of peeled potato. If you end up with more than the 500g we need here, that's ok — stick it in the pot or make some tatties for dinner!

It's best to use a potato variety that is classed as "good for roasting or chips" as they break down better than "boilers". Consider varieties such as Desiree, King Edward, Marris Piper or a general all-rounder that is very common in supermarkets. It's not so good with firm or waxy potato such as Charlotte but it's ok if that's all you have.

This recipe is easy to scale and the proportion of the vegetables is not at all important.

Portions

Number of portions 5 Final Portion Size 200g

Storage Container Large Plastic

Storage

Serve fresh but also ideal for freezing in large plastic containers.

Allow to cool before freezing

Heating & Serving

Heating instructions from chilled are a guide only.

Micro	Oven	Stove	Fryer	Cold
4 min		10 min		

If reheating from frozen, increase heating times.

Preferably defrosted overnight before heating.

If you heat on the stove top, be sure to defrost first, or stick in the microwave for a few minutes to start the defrost.

You can add extra milk or water if you think the soup is too thick.

Be sure the soup is piping hot throughout before serving.

Serve in a soup bowl or mug with crusty bread.

Once defrosted, consume within 24 hours.

Do not refreeze.

Techniques & Principles

Some of the basic techniques and principles are detailed elsewhere as, once you know them, you will have little need to refer back to them.

It reduces the clutter in the recipe sheet!

- Dicing and Slicing Onions
- Dicing and Slicing Potatoes
- Washing and Slicing Leeks

Rough Diced Potato for Soup or Stovies

You want to have a mixture of large and small pieces that will cook at different rates.

This will give you small pieces that break down into the liquid, but you still leave you with some decent sized chunks in the dish.



The big chunks will break down a little, and as a minimum, they will lose their sharp edges and become a bit more "rounded".