## Broccoli Cheese Soup

This recipe makes about 8 cups of soup



## **Ingredients**

1 medium potato, diced ½ medium onion, diced

3 cups broccoli, finely chopped

1-2 stalks celery, diced (optional)

3-4 carrots, finely chopped (optional)

2 cloves minced garlic

**3 cups** vegetable broth

2 cups milk

2 cups shredded cheese

## **Directions:**

- 1. Heat a large soup pot over medium heat and add 2 tablespoons of vegetable broth.
- 2. Add all the vegetables except the broccoli and sauté until tender and fragrant.
- 3. Add the remaining vegetable broth and milk to the vegetables, stirring well. Bring the mixture to a gentle simmer and let it cook for 5 minutes.
- 4. In a separate pan, cook the broccoli by covering the bottom of a frying pan with water, adding the broccoli and a lid, and "steaming" the broccoli for a few minutes.
- 5. After the vegetable and milk mixture has cooked for 5 minutes, add it to a blender and blend until smooth (you can add about ½ cup of cashews if you want a creamier soup). After blending, pour it back into the soup pot. (For a chunkier soup, skip this step)
- 6. Gradually add the shredded cheese, stirring constantly until it is fully melted and the soup becomes smooth and creamy.
- 7. Add the chopped, cooked broccoli and stir
- 8. Remove the pot from heat and allow the soup to cool slightly.
- 9. Evenly spread the cooled soup across silicone or parchment-lined trays
- 10. Add dividers if using. We like the 10-portion setting.
- 11. Freeze dry (my cycle time was 30 hours)
- 12. Store in jars for short-term use or in mylar bags for long-term storage

## Rehydration:

To rehydrate a single serving, add 1 cup of hot water to 2 divider portions or about 1½ cups of freeze-dried soup and stir until well combined. Let the mixture sit for 2 to 3 minutes, allowing the soup to fully absorb the water and regain its creamy texture. Adjust the consistency by adding more or less water to suit your preference.

**Notes:** The blended version rehydrated better than the chunky version

**Nutritional Value Per 1 cup serving** 

Calories: 236 Protein: 14 g Fat: 14 g Carbohydrates: 16 g Sugar: 6 g Fiber: 2 g