



Tofu, black bean and kombu dashi

By Miele

2 hours

Preparation Time

1 hour

Cooking Time

8 serves

Serves

INGREDIENTS

Black bean paste

- 2 tbsp fermented black beans
- 2 tbsp peanut oil
- 3 garlic cloves, crushed
- 2 tbsp Shaoxing wine
- 1 tsp sugar
- 1 tbsp tamari
- 8 pieces (800 g) white firm tofu

Kombu dashi

60 g kombu

10 g shiitake mushrooms, dried

2 litres water

25 g bonito flakes

To serve

Seasonal mushrooms; enoki, shiitake, shimeji, wood ear, king brown etc.

Chilli, spring onions, optional

METHOD

Black bean paste

- 1. Place the black beans into a bowl of water and soak for 20 minutes. Drain.
- 2. Heat oil in a saucepan on medium heat, induction setting 6. Add the black beans and garlic and cook for 1 minute.
- 3. Add the wine, sugar and tamari. Continue to cook until the mixture is a paste consistency.

Tofu

- 1. Slice tofu pieces in half and make a small hollow in the top using a small metal teaspoon.
- 2. Place ½ teaspoon of black bean paste in the hollow and transfer to a baking paper-lined perforated steam container.
- 3. Place in the steam oven and Steam at 100°C for 10 minutes.

Kombu dashi

- 1. Place the kombu, shiitake mushrooms and water into an unperforated steam container, cover with a lid and marinade for 1 hour.
- 2. After 1 hour, Steam at 100°C for 45 minutes. Remove the kombu and shiitake mushrooms from the broth and discard.
- 3. Add bonito flakes while still warm and stir to combine. Strain dashi through a muslin-lined sieve into a jug. Discard any solids and set aside until ready to use.

To serve

- 1. Heat the dashi to boiling on high heat, induction setting 9.
- 2. Place tofu in centre of bowl and top with black bean paste. Place mushrooms around the outside and gently pour over the hot dashi. Serve.

Hints and tips

- Black bean paste can be made ahead of time and will keep in the refrigerator for 1 week, or can be frozen for 3
 months
- Kombu dashi can be made ahead of time and will keep for 1 week in the refrigerator, or it can be frozen for 2 months.
- Kombu is an edible kelp common in Japanese cuisine. It can be purchased at Asian supermarkets.