

GARLIC BROCCOLINI WITH FETA

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 **bunch** (8oz/¼k) **of broccolini**
- 2 **cloves of garlic; or 4 shakes of garlic powder**
- ⅓ **cup of pure revitalized or spring water**
- 1 **thick slice (40g/2oz) of goat or sheep milk feta; or Chevrette**

DIRECTIONS:

Wash the broccolini well and remove the tough parts of the stems. Steam in a small covered pot/pan with the garlic and water, on medium heat, for 3 minutes. Turn off the heat, remove the cover, and sprinkle slices of the cheese over the broccolini. Cover and let sit for 1-2 minutes or until the cheese has melted.

ENJOY with lamb, Rosemary Kipfler Potatoes, or various pasta dishes.

Use **organic** ingredients

Serves 2

Suitable for all blood types

Originally developed by the Sakata Seed Co. of Yokohama, Japan in 1993, **broccolini** is a cross between broccoli and Chinese kale known as gai-lan. It is milder, a bit sweeter, and more tender than broccoli. Nutritionally, it is a rich source of vitamins K, C, folate, pantothenic acid, B6, B2, choline, and other B vitamins. It also contains vitamins E, A/ betacarotene, and other carotenoids such as lutein and zeaxanthin. Broccolini is high in fiber, chromium, phosphorus, manganese, potassium and other minerals. This unique combination of nutrients gives broccolini strong anti-inflammatory, antioxidant, and detoxification properties. Its rich supply of phytochemicals help maintain the nervous system, brain function, vision, blood pressure, and bone health. As a member of the cruciferous family, broccolini contains a high concentration of glucosinolate compounds, which releases myrosinase enzymes. This enzyme activity produces a variety of antioxidant compounds such as sulphoranes, indoles, and isothiocyanates. Glucosinolates and other phytochemicals lower the risk of colon or lung cancer and help to prevent bladder, breast, prostate, stomach, and esophageal cancer. These vital nutrients also help to prevent heart disease and stroke.

Select fresh broccolini that is firm, tender, and dark dark green in color. Store in a baggie in the fridge and use within a week.

Native to central Asia, **garlic** is one of the oldest cultivated plants in the world, going back 4,000 years to the ancient Egyptians. It was placed in the tomb of pharaohs and given to the slaves that built the Pyramids to enhance their endurance and strength. Greeks and Romans also used garlic before sporting events and going off to war. By the 6th century BC, garlic was known in both China and India.

Garlic is a member of the *Allium* family, which includes onions and leeks. It contains a unique combination of powerful flavonoids and sulfur-containing compounds including thiosulfinates (allicin), sulfoxides (alliin), and dithiins (ajoene). Allicin, one of garlic's most highly valued sulfur compounds, stays in tact for only 2-16 hours, at room temperature.

Thus, not all garlic (fresh or extracts/supplements) provide the same benefit. e.g. Cooking, microwaving (used on imported garlic), or adding garlic to acidic foods like lemon juice, cause it to lose some of its properties. Ageing garlic (powdered or supplements) to make it odorless, also reduces its beneficial allicin, and thus, compromises its effectiveness. Letting garlic sit after being chopped or crushed increases its benefits.

Garlic helps clear the ill-effects of bronchitis, lung congestion, coughs, sore throats, sinus, asthma, and food poisoning. It also helps treat bacterial and fungal infections.

The diallyl sulfides in garlic improve iron metabolism because it helps to increase production of a protein called ferroportin, which enables stored iron to become bioavailable.

Garlic's combination of anti-inflammatory and anti-oxidative stress compounds help prevent or improve degenerative cardiovascular conditions like atherosclerosis and the forming of blood clots.

Garlic lowers blood pressure in two ways:

One particular disulfide called ajoene, prevents platelets from becoming too sticky and thereby lowers the risk of platelets forming a clot. The other is the production of hydrogen sulfide (H₂S) gas, which occurs when red blood cells take sulfur-containing molecules in garlic and then use this gas to help blood vessels expand and balance blood pressure. H₂S is placed in the same category as nitric oxide (NO).

Garlic is a rich source of manganese, vitamins B6 and C. It also contains some copper, selenium, phosphorus and a small amount of calcium and vitamin B1. Garlic's selenium, a co-factor of glutathione peroxidase (important antioxidant enzyme), works with vitamin E in a number of vital antioxidant systems. Garlic's B6 helps lower homocysteine, which can damage blood vessel walls.

Garlic has strong antibacterial and antiviral properties. Its disulfide, ajoene helps keep yeast *Candida Albicans* in check.

Select fresh garlic that is plump, firm, and free of sprouts or mold. In addition to fresh organic garlic, organic powdered garlic can be used for convenience.

Store garlic in a cool dry place in an open basket and away from sunshine and heat.

For an effective odorless garlic supplement, choose a coated (enteric) tablet or capsule, high in allicin, which will dissolve in the intestine instead of the stomach.

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