



Producing pasta dishes

Lesson 1

Gain knowledge and understanding of storing, preparing and cooking various pasta dishes in the hospitality and catering industry with this course.





Learning Objectives

- List ingredients used to make pasta
- Describe how to make fresh pasta
- Understand how to make various stuffed pasta
- State how to compile and cook a lasagne pasta dish
- Identify pasta shapes using pasta cutting/rolling machines
- Recognise how to cook pasta correctly
- Summarise common pasta sauces and list their ingredients





Learning Objectives

- Explain how to check the quality of dried pasta, fresh pasta and sauces
- Identify the correct equipment required to prepare and cook pasta dishes
- Understand how to reheat pre-cooked pasta and sauces for service
- State the garnishes served on various pasta dishes
- Describe how to produce healthy pasta dishes
- Select types of pasta sauces with different shaped pasta





What is pasta?

Pasta is made from a dough made from flour, eggs and water.

Rolled into shapes and dried or cooked fresh.

Usually cooked by boiling or baking.





What is pasta?

Pasta originates from Italy and we tend to stick with Italian based ingredients.





Fresh pasta dough

Made in a dough mixing machine.

Ensure the dough is firm, smooth and dry.





Ingredients of pasta

- Wheat flour (gluten free flour's can be used)
- Water
- Eggs
- Salt





Coloured pasta – adding ingredients to the dough

- Red pasta add tomato puree
- Green pasta add spinach
- Black pasta add squid ink





Fresh pasta dough

- Mix all the ingredients together
- By hand takes a log time
- In a dough mixing machine is easier
- Ensure the dough is smooth and dry





Rolling pasta for shapes

- Roll sheets very thinly
- Cut sheets in shapes





Rolling pasta for shapes

Machines come in different sizes.

- Household machines
- Commercial machines





Stuffed pasta

Rolled sheets of pasta placed over moulds.

Moulds are filled.

Covered and sealed with another sheet.





Stuffed pasta shapes

- Ravioli square shapes
- Tortellini semi circle and nipped at the edges
- Cannelloni long wide tubes





Stuffed pasta filling

You can stuff pasta with the freshest local ingredients.

Finely chop the filling. Precooking the filling is normal to ensure a good product.

Ricotta cheese and spinach is a typical Italian stuffing.





Cooking stuffed pasta

Ravioli and tortellini are boiled.

Cannelloni is typically baked with a covering of sauce.





Lasagne

Lasagne are large flat sheets of pasta.

Used for building a large dish with layers of filling and pasta.





Lasagne fillings

A traditional lasagne is built using layers of bolognaise sauce, lasagne sheets and topped with bechamel sauce and cheese.

It is baked in the oven.





Fillings for lasagne's

Use fresh seasonal produce.

Always top with a sauce to protect the filling and prevent the pasta sheets from drying out or getting burned.





Cooking lasagne

It is best to precook any filling and sauce before cooking a lasagne.

This ensures everything is cooked through.

Saves time cooking.

Prevents over cooking of the pasta.





Simple pasta shapes

Simple pasta shapes are cut by hand or using a home pasta machine.

- Tagliatelle long strips 1 cm width
- Tagliarini long strips 0.5 cm width



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Popular Pasta shapes using commercial machines

- Penne –thin tubes
- Fusilli curly
- Spaghetti long
- Rigatoni wide tubes
- Shells





Revision Activity 1

Describe how to make a lasagne?