#### OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION



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# **NUTRITION AND YOU...PEAS**

# FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Fresh local peas have a short growing season and are usually available by June. Peas come in varieties that include green (English) peas, sugar snap peas, and snow peas. They are a very easy vegetable to grow in your home garden. Peas provide a delicious low-fat, low-calorie source of protein that you can add to soups, salads, pasta, or side dishes.

### SHOP SMART

Purchase peas that have firm, glossy pods, and are full to bursting. The stems, leaves, and tips should be soft and green. Avoid peas that rattle loosely in the pod. Choose medium sized rather than very large pea pods for sweeter taste. Keep peas refrigerated until ready to use. It is best to eat fresh peas the same day you purchase them.

## EAT HEALTHY

#### Peas are:

- An excellent source of Vitamin C
- A good source of Vitamin A
- A good source of dietary fiber
- Cholesterol free
- Low in calories and fat



Note: 1 cup of peas provides 1 cup of your daily vegetable requirement.

### KEEP IT SAFE

These food safety tips will help protect you and your family:

- Wash hands for 20 seconds with warm water and soap before and after preparing food.
- Don't wash peas before storing them.
- Rinse peas with cool, running water before shelling them.
- Shell peas just before you plan to cook or eat them
- Rinse shelled peas with water before cooking.

Your Local Story here:

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# **RFCIPF**

#### **Spring Vegetable Soup**

#### Ingredients:

- 1 Tbsp. olive oil or other vegetable oil
- 1/4 medium head (about 2 cups) finely shredded red cabbage
- 2 medium seeded and chopped ripe tomatoes
- ½ cup drained and chopped canned artichoke hearts
- 1 cup frozen or fresh green peas
- 2 ½ cups low-sodium tomato or vegetable juice
- 1 cup water
- 2 tsp. dried basil

Salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste

#### Instructions:

- In large soup pot, heat oil over medium heat. Cook cabbage, tomatoes, artichoke hearts, and peas for 10 minutes.
- Add tomato juice and water. Bring to boil. Reduce heat, add basil and simmer to 10 minutes, or until all vegetables are tender and soup is piping hot.

# Nutrition Facts – Spring Vegetable Soup

Cost: Per Recipe: \$ 3.13 Per Serving: \$ 0.78

Serving Size: ¼ of recipe (402 grams)

Calories: 140 Calories from Fat: 35

Per Serving % Daily Value*		*Percent daily value
Total Fat – 4 g Saturated Fat – 0.5 g Dietary Fiber – 5 g Sodium – 230 mg Sugars – 12 g Protein – 5 g	6% 3% 20% 10%	Based on a 2,000 calorie diet. Your daily values may be higher or lower depending on your caloric needs.

- 3. Serve in individual serving bowls. Season to taste with salt and pepper.
- 4. Top with banana slices and frozen yogurt.

## FOCUS ON FITNESS

Plant or care for a vegetable or flower garden.

# REMEMBER:

Make half your plate fruits and vegetables. Diets rich in foods containing fiber, such as fruits and vegetables, may reduce the risk of heart disease, obesity, and type 2 diabetes.



#### Revised 12-2015.

#### REFERENCES

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- The Wellness Encyclopedia of Food and Nutrition, The University of California at Berkeley, 1992
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