Recipe: Crock Pot Pumpkin Butter

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Pumpkin butter made from fresh pumpkin in your crock pot.

Ingredients:

5 lb pumpkin gutted and quartered

2 c. sugar

2 tbsp cinnamon

1/2 tsp. all spice

1/2 tsp mace or nutmeg

Quarter pumpkin. Remove 'guts', seeds, and stem (leave skin on). Place pumpkin and 2 cups water in your crock pot. Cook 4 hours on low.

Scoop pulp out of pumpkin skin. Mash with potato masher. Add sugar and spices to mashed pumpkin. Cook down 6-8 hours on low setting. Spoon into jars.

This recipe is made as a refrigerator butter. If you wish to preserve pumpkin butter for shelf storage, use a standard hot water bath canning method. Great on home made breads, or stirred into plain yougurt.

Notes: Add sugar and spices to taste. I prefer mace to nutmeg because it has a little more citrus aroma to it. This is a simple no-fuss preserve. It takes a long time to cook but very little time to prepare. Unlike traditional butters, you do not have to stand over it and stir all day. This is a wonderful way to use up the left over jack-o-lantern. It makes a lovely Christmas or hostess gift for Thanksgiving.

Prep time: 5 minutes to prepare; 8-10 hours to cook.