

Avocados from Peru Pesto Pasta Salad

Makes 4 to 6 servings

Avocado Pesto Ingredients:

2 Avocados from Peru, peeled and pitted

2 to 3 garlic cloves

1 cup basil leaves, packed

3 to 4 Tbsp lemon juice

Salt and pepper, to taste

⅓ cup extra virgin olive oil

Water, as needed to adjust consistency, optional

1 Tbsp Parmesan, shredded, optional

Instructions:

In a food processor, combine avocados, garlic, basil, lemon juice, salt, pepper and olive oil. Blend until smooth and creamy. If the pesto is too thick, add 1 to 2 Tbsp water until desired consistency. Add Parmesan, if using. Set aside.

Pasta Salad Ingredients:

1 lb dry penne or fusilli pasta 2 cups cherry or grape tomatoes, halved 1½ to 2 cups mozzarella pearls Basil or parsley, chopped, optional for garnish Parmesan cheese, shredded, optional

Instructions:

Cook pasta according to package directions. Drain and let cool completely. In a large bowl, combine cooled pasta with the tomatoes, mozzarella and Avocado Pesto. Gently fold to combine. Garnish with basil or parsley. Top with Parmesan. Serve immediately or refrigerate until ready to serve.

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