Southwestern Chicken-and-Rice Soup with Tortilla Strips

Ingredients

1 medium onion, chopped 1 large carrot, peeled and chopped 1/2 medium-sized red bell pepper, chopped 1 Tbsp vegetable oil 2 garlic cloves, minced 2 cups shredded cooked chicken 3/4 cup uncooked white rice* 2 medium plum tomatoes, chopped 1 to 2 Tbsp chopped pickled jalapeno slices 1 tsp. ground cumin 1/4 tsp black pepper 8 cups chicken broth 1/4 cup loosely packed cilantro leaves, chopped Juice of 1 lime (about 2 Tbsp.) 1 ripe avocado, chopped Tortilla strips (recipe on next page)

Directions

Sauté first 3 ingredients in hot oil in a large Dutch oven over medium heat 7 minutes or until vegetables are tender. Add garlic; sauté 1 minute.

Stir in chicken and next 5 ingredients. Stir in chicken broth. Bring to a boil, reduce heat, and simmer 20 minutes or until rice is tender. Stir in cilantro and lime juice.

Serve with chopped avocado and tortilla strips.

Servings: About 6 servings

Source: Southern Living 2006 Annual Recipes

Tortilla Strips

Ingredients

6 6-inch corn tortillas

Directions

Cut corn tortillas into strips; place on a baking sheet coated with vegetable cooking spray. Spray cooking spray over tops of strips.

Bake at 400 degrees for 10 to 15 minutes or until crisp, stirring occasionally.

Source: Southern Living 2006 Annual Recipes