

Leek and Potato Soup

You'll need:

Some recipes only use the white part of the leek in order to make a pale soup. In this recipe we are using the green ends as these contain most of the vitamins. The soup will be darker but just as tasty!

50g butter
450g potatoes - peeled and chopped into chunks
1 onion cut the same size as the potatoes
500g leeks chopped
850ml-1.2litres/1.5-2pts chicken or vegetable stock
125ml full-fat milk
Small carton single cream - optional

1. Heat a large deep pan on the stove with a smidge of butter or oil. Sprinkle the lamb with a little salt and pepper, then sear in the pan until browned on all sides - this step is not essential but gives the soup a deeper flavour.
2. Add 2 litres of water to the pan, and bring to the boil. Lower to a simmer and add all root vegetables and the lentils- except the leeks. Simmer uncovered for 2-3 hours, or till the meat is so tender it falls apart. As the fat from the meat rises to the top of the pan you can skim it if you like.
3. Twenty minutes before you are ready to serve, add the leeks to the pan.
4. When the Cawl is ready, take out the meat and shred it, taking care to discard all the bones. Return the meat to the soup.
5. With the rich flavour of the meat you may not need to season the soup, so do taste before you add more salt. Finally, sprinkle with fresh thyme or parsley for a pop of colour and flavour, and serve in deep bowls.

TIP Lamb neck can be substituted for other cuts - such as shoulder or even chops, but a better taste is achieved when the bone goes in the stew too. You can even use chicken drumsticks if you prefer !!