NORTH AFRICAN · LUNCH · DINNER

Moroccan-Spiced Baked Chicken Thighs with Couscous

60 min | Serves 6 | 587 kcal a serve | Video 7:18 · The Mediterranean Dish

Dairy-free | Nut-free

About 42 g of protein a serve, with carrots, celery and onion roasted in the same dish, parsley stirred through the couscous, and a sauce of just olive oil, tomato paste and spices. Rich in vitamin A, vitamin B6, zinc and selenium.

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Ingredients 20 · SERVES 6

- ⅓ cup extra **virgin olive oil**
- 1 tablespoon **red wine vinegar**
- 4 tablespoons **tomato paste**
- 4 **garlic** cloves, minced
- 2 teaspoons **ras el hanout**
- ½ teaspoon **ground cinnamon** (of 1 tsp; the other ½ tsp goes in the couscous)
- ¾ teaspoon **ground ginger**
- 2½ lb **chicken thighs**, boneless and skinless (6 to 8)
- **kosher salt**, to taste
- **black pepper**, to taste
- 3 **carrots**, cut into 1-inch pieces
- 2 **celery ribs**, cut into 1-inch pieces
- 1 large **red onion**, halved and cut into ½-inch slices
- **Olive oil**: a drizzle of extra virgin olive oil over the vegetables (about ½ tbsp)
- 1 tablespoon extra **virgin olive oil**, to toast the couscous
- 1 cup instant (Moroccan) couscous
- **Water**: 1 cup boiling water or chicken broth, for the couscous (absorbed)
- ½ teaspoon **ground cinnamon**, for the couscous
- 1 cup **fresh parsley**, chopped
- a handful of **raisins** (optional)

Amounts in US units, converted from the cook's and rounded — the video has the originals.

Contains: Gluten. Check labels on stock, sauces and spice mixes.

Method TIMES = THE MOMENT IN THE VIDEO

1. Heat the oven to 425°F. Whisk the olive oil, vinegar, tomato paste, garlic, ras el hanout, cinnamon and ginger. 0:12
2. Pat the chicken dry, season both sides with salt and pepper, and coat with about three-quarters of the spice mixture. 1:47
3. Toss the carrots, celery and onion with salt, pepper, the rest of the spice mixture and a drizzle of olive oil. Spread them in a large baking dish, flat sides down, and add the chicken. 2:49
4. Bake 40–45 minutes until the chicken is cooked through and the vegetables are soft and lightly charred. 4:31
5. Meanwhile, toast the couscous in 1 tbsp olive oil in a saucepan until golden, pour in 1 cup boiling water or broth, season with salt, cover and take off the heat for 10 minutes. 4:39
6. Fluff the couscous with ½ tsp cinnamon and the parsley, spoon it in between the chicken pieces to soak up the pan juices for 5 minutes, and scatter with raisins if you like. 5:48

> **Tip** The cook says it is Moroccan-inspired rather than traditional. You can rub the chicken the night before. Leftovers keep 3–4 days in the fridge.

The method is a summary in our words — the video shows every step.

One serve gives you 1 OF 6 · ESTIMATE

ENERGY	PROTEIN	CARBOHYDRATE
587 kcal 2,460 kJ	**42** g 84% of a day	**34** g 29 g net · 6.7 g sugars 12% of a day
FIBRE	**FAT**	**SODIUM**
4.3 g 15% of a day	**31** g 6.4 g saturated 40% of a day	**570** mg 25% of a day

Energy from net carbs 21% · protein 30% · fat 49% — low carb (under 26% of the energy from carbs)

High in (20%+ of a day) Selenium 107% · Vitamin K 56% · Vitamin B6 41% · Zinc 39% · Vitamin A 38% · Vitamin B12 35% · Vitamin E 24%

Source of (10–19%) Iron 18% · Potassium 17% · Magnesium 15% · Omega-3 14% · Vitamin C 13% · Folate 12%

Recipe and video: The Mediterranean Dish (@TheMediterraneanDish) on YouTube — youtube.com/watch?v=zGmETz_HrRE, published 22 October 2021. All credit for the recipe goes to the cook; please watch and support their channel.

By Notbroken: the method summary, the unit conversions, the diet notes and the nutrition estimate — worked out from the ingredient list with USDA FoodData Central values; % of a day compares one serve with the US FDA daily values on food labels (2,000 kcal). Brands, portions and cooking change the real numbers.

General information about food, not medical or dietary advice. Free, no sign-up: notbroken.io/eat/moroccan-spiced-chicken-thighs-couscous