

Okonomiyaki (Japanese pancakes)

Serves: 4-6 Time: 30 minutes

These are delicious little pancakes that the whole family will love. Traditionally made with finely shredded cabbage, you can add carrot, parsnip or any other root veg- if you've got flour and eggs- you've got this! They sometimes contain pickled ginger (the stuff you get with sushi) but I find I only use a little and end up throwing the rest away - so this recipe is without.

The Japanese have many regional variations, using bonito (tuna) flakes, tiny bits of bacon and even cheese as a garnish. They also love a bit of sauce- Japanese Kewpie mayo (but you can use regular) and a special condiment, see the simple recipe to make your own.

Recipe makes 4-5 large pancakes or 20 smaller ones.



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Ingredients:

6 eggs

400g flour

400g stock

½ head cabbage (finely shredded)

1 small potato, peeled and grated

2 carrots, grated

From your store cupboard/fridge:

For the sauce (optional)

3 tbsp ketchup

1 tbsp brown sauce

1 tbsp Worcester sauce

1/2 tbsp soy

1/2 tbsp vinegar

1 tsp honey

Oil

Don't forget to wash all veg thoroughly before using.

Allergens: Eggs, Gluten

Method:

In a large mixing bowl, whisk the eggs until combined. Whisk in the flour, then add the stock little by little (you don't want to cook the eggs) Then add the vegetables and mix well ensuring everything is coated with the batter.

Open a window and tie up your hair! Get a frying pan nice and hot with 3 tbsp oil, adding more with each batch if you need to.

If you're making small fritters (I prefer these, as do the kids) you can fit around four in a normal sized pan. Cook them on a medium heat for 3-4 minutes until golden and crispy then flip over for another 3 minutes. Repeat until you've finished the batter. If you're in a rush, use two frying pans and make big ones!

You can put these on a baking tray and top with strips of streaky bacon and cheese and stick them under the grill- or just serve with sweet chili sauce and plain yoghurt. They are actually pretty fantastic on their own too.

