

THANKSGIVING SAUSAGE STUFFING*

Servings: 8 - 10

Prep: 30 minutes / **Cook**: About 2 hours 20 minutes total

Ingredients:

- 10 cups hearty white bread, cut into 1/2" cubes**
- 3 to 4 stalks celery, finely chopped
- 1 large yellow onion, finely chopped
- 1 tablespoon parsley, finely chopped
- 1 stick of butter, melted
- Poultry seasoning
- Salt
- Pepper
- 1 pound sausage, crumbled, browned***
- 1 to 1.5 cups turkey or chicken broth
- ½ cup heavy cream
- Cooking spray

Steps:

- 1. Preheat oven to 200° F (94° C).
- 2. Cut bread into 1/2" cubes and spread on a rimmed cookie sheet.
- 3. Bake for about 90 minutes to dry the bread, checking and turning every 20 minutes, until done.
- 4. Meanwhile, finely chop the onion, celery, and parsley.
- 5. When bread is almost done, in a large frying pan, melt butter over medium heat then add onion, celery, parsley, salt, and pepper, and sauté for about 10 minutes.

^{*} This stuffing is baked in a dish outside of the bird. If you prefer, do everything up until #8, then spoon into the cavity of the turkey. You'll have leftover stuffing mix; put that in a smaller 8x8 Pyrex, or similar dish, and bake on its own.

^{**} I generally use Arnold's brand white bread. However, if you want to buy bagged plain or herbed bread stuffing mix, do it; it'll be just as good and it'll save a lot of prep and cooking time. But keep in mind that you'll have to adjust your seasoning if you use seasoned stuffing mix.

^{***} I use Jimmy Dean Regular or Sage.

- 6. In the biggest bowl you have, combine bread and sautéed vegetables then mix in the poultry seasoning (this is a guesstimate, but ½ a tablespoon will probably work; I add and taste and add some more)
- 7. In the same frying pan, brown the sausage, breaking it up with a wooden spoon as it cooks.
- 8. Add the sausage to the bread mixture and stir to combine.
- 9. Transfer the mixture to a large prepared baking dish.
- 10. At this point, you can cover and refrigerate the stuffing until it's time to bake.
- 11. When ready to bake, preheat oven to 325° F (163° C) then moisten the mixture with the broth and cream, stirring to combine.
- 12. Cover dish with foil, then bake for 40 to 45 minutes.
- 13. Take the foil off for the last 10 minutes to crust up the top a bit, as you see fit.
- 14. Enjoy the rich stuffing goodness!