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# **Cheesy Bacon & Caramelized Leek Strata**

with Chives



2h 2 Servings

Strata is the ultimate brunch dish-set it up the night before and simply bake it the next morning. Caramelized leeks, toasted bread, and a rich custard bake into a savory bread pudding. We then sprinkle on shredded cheese and crispy bacon and broil to a gooey golden brown. Fresh chives are an elegant garnish for this crowd-pleasing and hassle-free dish. (2p serves 4; 4p serves 8)

#### What we send

- 1 baguette <sup>1</sup>
- 4 oz pkg thick-cut bacon
- 7 oz leek
- 1 yellow onion
- 12 oz evaporated milk <sup>7</sup>
- 1 pkt chicken broth concentrate
- 1 pkt Dijon mustard <sup>17</sup>
- 2 oz shredded fontina <sup>7</sup>
- 1/4 oz fresh chives

### What you need

- ¼ c unsalted butter (plus more for greasing)
- kosher salt & ground pepper
- 4 large eggs <sup>3</sup>

#### **Tools**

- · 8x8-inch baking dish
- · rimmed baking sheet
- · medium skillet

#### **Allergens**

Wheat (1), Egg (3), Milk (7), Sulphites (17). May contain traces of other allergens. Packaged in a facility that packages gluten containing products.

#### **Nutrition per serving**

Calories 630kcal, Fat 38g, Carbs 39g, Protein 31g



# 1. Prep ingredients

Preheat oven to 350°F with a rack in the center. **Butter** an 8x8-inch baking dish.

Cut or tear **baguette** into 1-inch pieces; transfer to a rimmed baking sheet. Cut **bacon** into ½-inch pieces. Halve **leek** lengthwise, then rinse under running water, pat dry, and cut into ¾-inch halfmoons. Thinly slice **half the onion** (save rest for own use).



# 2. Dry bread & cook bacon

Bake **bread** on center rack until dry, 10-15 minutes.

Place **bacon** in a medium skillet and set over medium-high heat. Cook bacon, stirring occasionally, until golden brown and crisp, about 5 minutes. Use a slotted spoon to transfer bacon to a paper towellined plate.

Reserve **bacon fat** in skillet.



#### 3. Cook leeks & onions

Add **leeks, onions**, and **a pinch of salt** to reserved skillet. Cover skillet and cook, stirring occasionally, until vegetables have softened and reduced in volume, 2-3 minutes. Lower heat to medium-low, uncover, and continue cooking, stirring occasionally, until vegetables are completely tender and lightly browned, another 5-7 minutes. Remove from heat.



4. Soak bread

In a large bowl, microwave ¼ cup butter until melted. Whisk in evaporated milk, broth concentrate, Dijon mustard, 4 large eggs, ½ teaspoon salt, and a couple grinds of pepper.

Add **bread, leeks**, and **onions** to custard; gently stir to coat. Pour into prepared baking dish and set aside to soak for at least 30 minutes (or wrap in plastic and refrigerate overnight).



5. Bake strata

When ready to bake, preheat oven to 325°F with racks in the center and upper third. Bake **strata**, uncovered, on center rack until edges and center are puffed and edges have pulled away slightly from sides of dish, 40-45 minutes (center should register 165-170°F). Switch oven to broil.



6. Broil & serve

Sprinkle **fontina** over the top of **strata** and broil on top rack until cheese is just melted and surface is lightly browned in spots, 1-2 minutes. Sprinkle **bacon** over the top and broil for another 30-60 seconds until bacon is re-crisped. Finely slice **chives** and sprinkle over **strata**. Let cool for 5 minutes before serving. Enjoy!