

Potato Salad Is Summertime Favorite

With the first warm breeze comes the thought of cool summer foods, treats that spell a leisurely life after winter's hearty fare.

A dish of top listing is potato salad, and the recipes are as varied as the seasonings favored by your taste.

There are, however, a few pointers for perfection in the cooking of the potatoes themselves. Idaho makes good salad. They'll cook up mealy-dry and hold their flavor, cold or hot.

Place them in a heavy pot, perhaps a Dutch oven, with cold salted water 1 inch up on the sides. Cover tightly. Bring the water to a boiling point, quickly, then reduce the heat to simmer.

1/4 hour of cooking. When just tender, remove from heat and drain off water.

Dry over low heat. Peel the potatoes while hot. A paper towel makes a good holder. For a good looking salad, keep them neat and orderly in the cubing.

First halve them lengthwise. With the flat side down, cut each half in 1/4-inch strips, then crosswise to make bite-size cubes.

Gourmet secret—mix salad ingredients with warm potatoes to absorb seasonings. If cold potatoes are used, pour heated vinegar, French dressing or white table wine over them for the same reason.

POTATO SALAD, IDAHO STYLE
(8 servings, easily doubled)
8 medium-size Idaho potatoes
1/4 cup minced Idaho Sweet
Spanish onions
Salt, coarse-ground black pepper
1/2 cup white wine vinegar
2 eggs—hard-cooked and diced
1 cup chopped celery
1/2 cup chopped dill pickle
1 cup sour cream
1 cup mayonnaise

Part 1: Put cooked, cubed potatoes in warm bowl. Dust lightly with salt, sprinkle with the minced sweet Spanish onions, dashes of coarse-ground black pepper.

Mix in the white vinegar. Allow to stand at room temperature for one hour, then refrigerate overnight.

Hard-cook 2 eggs. Have in refrigerator celery, dill pickles, 1/2 cup mayonnaise, salad greens, so that all will be cold when added the next day.

Part 2: (Next day) mix celery, dill pickles and hard-cooked eggs together. Combine sour cream with 1 cup mayonnaise. Lightly stir celery, pickle and egg into the chilled potato cubes.

Add mayonnaise and cream mixture, using enough to coat ingredients liberally. Any left may be served separately.

Place potato salad in bowl from which it is to be served. Place in refrigerator. Just before serving, tuck some crisp salad greens around edges of bowl, decorate top of salad with hard-cooked egg slices or wedges, thin-sliced radishes, sliced stuffed olives, or tomato wedges.

Contrary to popular belief, sunlight increases the growth of bacteria in swimming pools. It accelerates the loss of chlorine, which is used to control bacteria growth.



A colorful salad to summer is your own favorite potato salad served chef's style with strips of nippy cheddar cheese, cooked chicken and ham to make it an outdoor

buffet or patio main dish. Round it out with a piping hot garlic-buttered crusty roll, a beverage, dessert of your choice. Everybody likes this meal!

BEGIN PORK-TESTING later

Himalayan, Rex Join Cat Family

Scientific-color breeding has added new breeds to the cat family.

Two of these new breeds are the Himalayan and the Rex. The Himalayan is a long-haired cat with Siamese markings. The Rex is a very rare short-hair type. It has a coat with small, deep waves right down to its tail.

Here are some of the better known cat breeds.

THE SIAMESE: Lean and lithe, it has clear brilliant blue eyes, pale body and shaded points. The points range in color from seal brown to blue-gray and pale mauve.

THE BURMESE: Its short-haired coat is plushy and sable brown. Its eyes are golden and its body and head are similar to the Siamese.

THE LONG-HAIR: Persian. Ideally, it has a large, round head, short snub nose, wide eyes, small ears, a body body and short legs. Its fluffy coat is particularly long around the neck and tail.

THE MANX: A native of the Isle of Man, it has short hair and absolutely no tail. Its long hind legs give it a distinctive hopping gait.

THE ABYSSINIAN: A rare cat with a coat of russet, ticked with black. Its eyes are hazel, green or gold and it strongly resembles the sacred cat of ancient Egypt.

THE DOMESTIC SHORT-HAIR: It may not have a pedigree, but it is loved by owners all over America and the world. Short-haired, it comes in every imaginable—and even unimaginable—color.



HOMEMAKING

FROM THE BOOKCASE

Peg Bracken Manners' Guide Is Properly Entertaining

TRY TO BEHAVE MYSELF: Peg Bracken's Etiquette Book by Peg Bracken (Illustrated by H. L. Kelly Knight); Harcourt, Brace & World, Inc., New York, 1964. 192 pp., \$1.75.

Reviewed by Marilyn Olson

Of one thing I am certain, my grandmother would be genuinely shocked that such a light humorous little book could possibly deal with the most proper subject of etiquette.

In fact, my mother might at least raise an eyebrow—but for me? I liked it immensely, as it delves into etiquette problems more common to the contemporary American scene than the proverbial black vs. white tie predicament.

It is obvious that to Peg Bracken good manners are nothing more than being considerate and showing a genuine concern for others in actions and in words.

She realizes that surely, most people know this, so she appropriately treats the subject in her familiar, light, off-beat style, thus subtly relegating etiquette to exactly its proper place on the ladder of perhaps more pertinent social problems.

MISS BRACKEN, well-known for the "I Hate to Housekeep Book" and "I Hate to Cook Book," takes up where the more widely read etiquette books leave off.

She goes into such problems as "If the invitation is for 7 p.m., does it actually mean 7 o'clock?" Her answer: "The earlier the party, the more leeway allowed in arrival; the later the hour, the less."

She discusses the amount of time to allot to cocktails before dinner and comes up with 45 minutes to an hour being best, so the guests won't crawl into the dining room on

hands and knees. Several examples of polite little mutterings are given which might help get rid of the late, late-lying guests as tactfully as possible.

Several techniques are shown to be rather effective in handling this type of situation.

SEVERAL SUBJECTS are listed as perilous or boring conversational topics. These include age (when you say "people our age," are you certain that the new acquaintance isn't years younger?); bodily ailments (Miss Bracken knows an attorney and can't think of him without also thinking of his kidneys); children (for obvious reasons); and decor ("they're just too mapley-mapley," or "you know, green stamp modern" could be the puncturing of someone's favorite status symbol).

Some of her apropos advice has to do with teaching children to be mannerly.

Her discussion of the sex relationship in marriage is probably as meaningful as anything in the book, and a few basic rules pertaining to "bedroom etiquette" could be well taken.

HER EXAMINATION of tipping practices is divided into sections by monetary sums, starting with the lowly nickel ("considered negotiable only by small children, who run errands for you") and continuing through to the folding green variety of the gratuity.

This leads naturally enough to a discussion of tipping in various types of restaurants; how to "show appreciation" while on an ocean voyage; plus gift ideas for the apartment doorman, the mailman and anyone else with whom you could come in contact.

She covers the "social white lie," which, of course, does exist for use in certain awkward situations. For instance, when the friend, via telephone, asks if you are busy on Friday night, what do you say? It could mean an invitation to their daughter's piano recital, or it could conceivably be an invitation to one of their marvelous theater parties.

I must admit that I'm not ready to dust off and toss out Amy Vanderbilt's book, as every minute detail of etiquette is not thoroughly covered by Miss Bracken.

"I Try to Behave Myself" makes for several hours of light whimsical reading with down-to-earth advice thrown in.

I will say that this is the only etiquette book that I've ever read from cover to cover. I somehow feel that Peg Bracken had this very much in mind!

How B'ham Spends for Auto Trips

(Special to the Eccentric)

NEW YORK, May 18 — How much will Birmingham residents be spending this year on automobile jaunts to the hinterlands?

With many local families planning vacations of this kind, the matter of just how much the trip will cost—for overnight lodging, for food and for gasoline—is entering the figuring stage, now that June is here.

The American Automobile Association has come to the rescue with some estimates.

On the basis of its report, Birmingham residents will be able to get along comfortably on a daily budget of \$31 for two people. This will take care of necessary spending only.

IT IS based on 300 miles of travel per day, with the car averaging 15 miles to the gallon of gas.

The AAA breaks down this budget as follows: \$10.50 for meals and snacks, \$11 for lodging, \$7 for gas and oil and \$2.50 for tips and miscellaneous items.

In addition, the couple will spend money for amusements, recreation, souvenirs and the like in an amount that will depend on their personal preferences, tastes and means.

Involved, also, in connection with the expense of a particular vacation trip is the question of how much it costs per year to own and operate a car.

HERE, AGAIN, the AAA provides the answer. It finds that the average car in the middle-price range, operated at 10,000 miles a year, costs \$1,162 annually, or 11.6 cents per mile.

In Birmingham, under this normal driving schedule add on the

basis of the number of passenger cars in use, local residents are spending an estimated \$11,852,000 a year.

The AAA study shows that a car costs \$2.17 a day, or \$792 a year, even if it just sits in the garage.

This is a fixed charge, the largest part of it being depreciation amounting to \$621 a year. Property damage and liability insurance takes another \$117. The balance is for fire and theft insurance, registration and license fees.

THE OTHER COSTS—for gas, oil, tires and maintenance—amount to 3.7 cents a mile, or \$370 for 10,000-mile operation.

Gas stations in Birmingham have been benefiting from the increased amount of car travel. Their gross receipts for the past fiscal year reached \$7,220,000, as against the previous year's \$6,894,000.

ENJOY THIS SUMMER ON PINE LAKE IF YOU BUY IT NOW! Beautiful air-conditioned home plus 5 room GUEST HOUSE. Four bedrooms and 3 1/2 bathrooms. Huge dining room and library. 30 foot family room plus paneled recreation room. In excellent condition with many new features. New furnace. New roof. Sprinkling system. Bathhouse on lake. Greenhouse. More—More—More. Call now for appointment! — Don't wait cause it will be SOLD! \$55,000.

WANT THE BEST? Then this superbly built customized ranch is for you. Three twin-bed sized bedrooms and 2 1/2 bathrooms. Separate dining room and 19.6 glazed porch. Deluxe kitchen with built-in double oven and stove. Electric garage door opener. Brooks sprinkling system. A combination of careful planning, quality workmanship and finest materials has produced this "HARD TO BEAT" value at \$49,500.

NO DRIVING CHORES FOR MOTHER! 2 blocks to Seaholm. 1 block to Midvale. Three bedrooms and 2 1/2 bathrooms. Dining room plus library. 16 foot screened porch. Recreation room. Nice kitchen with dishwasher and disposal. Fenced yard. Quick possession. In spotless condition. A superb value.

BEAUTIFUL HOME IN THE COUNTRY—yet only a few minutes to shopping area and St. Regis School. Two bedrooms, dining room and 20 foot library with second fireplace. Patio for outdoor fun with garden lights. 60 x 60 "doggie yard". Heated and plastered garage with electric door opener. Good kitchen with dishwasher, disposal, refrigerator and stove. Washer and dryer included. You'll be happy here. GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD!

NOTHING WRONG—But here's a great opportunity for you! DON'T MISS IT! Three bedrooms plus spare room on second floor suggests many uses, and two bathrooms. Separate dining room and 20 foot paneled family room. Fireplace in living room. Air-conditioner. Quick possession. Great neighborhood. \$20,900.00. HONEST!

LET US TAKE YOU TO SEE IT TODAY. This lovely home is a great buy! Three bedrooms, bathroom plus two lavs. Paneled library. Fireplace in living room. Newly decorated and in excellent condition. CLOSE TO STORES and PIERCE SCHOOL. \$26,200.

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