

Pad Thai

Ingredients

4 ounces wider rice stick noodles

1/4 cup peanut oil

1 to 4 tablespoons tamarind paste

1/4 cup fish sauce

⅓ cup honey

2 tablespoons rice vinegar

½ teaspoon red pepper flakes or crushed chili, or to taste

1/4 cup chopped spring onions

tspn minced garlic

eggs

small head Napa cabbage, shredded (about 4 cups)

cup bean sprouts

1/2 Kgm peeled prawns, can also add pressed tofu or a combination

½ cup roasted peanuts, chopped/crushed

1/4 cup chopped fresh coriander

limes, quartered

Method

Put noodles in a large bowl and add boiling water to cover. Let sit until noodles are just tender; check every 5 minutes or so to make sure they do not get too soft. Drain and then drizzle with one tablespoon peanut oil to keep from sticking and set aside.

Meanwhile, put 1 tablespoon tamarind paste, fish sauce, honey and vinegar in a small saucepan over medium-low heat and bring just to a simmer. Taste and add more tamarind paste if desired. It should be tangy, but not unpleasantly sour. Stir in red pepper flakes and set aside.

Put remaining 3 tablespoons oil in a large saucepan or wok over medium-high heat; when oil shimmers, add spring onions and garlic and cook for about a minute. Add eggs to pan; once they begin to set, scramble them until just done. Add cabbage and bean sprouts and continue to cook until cabbage begins to wilt, then add prawns or tofu (or both).

When prawns begin to turn pink and tofu begins to brown, add drained noodles to pan along with sauce. Toss everything together to coat with tamarind sauce and combine well.

When noodles are warmed through, serve, sprinkling each dish with peanuts and garnishing with coriander and lime wedges.

