

Parsnip, leek & beef ragu with pappardelle

Preparation 25 mins | Cooking 2 hours | Serves 4-6

If preferred, cook this ragu for 5 hours in a slow-cooker.

2 tbs olive oil
2 tbs plain flour
700g beef chuck steak, trimmed and cut into 1cm cubes
1 leek, trimmed, quartered lengthways and thinly sliced
400g medium parsnips, peeled, cored and cut into 1cm dice
1 celery stick, finely chopped
3 garlic cloves, crushed
½ cup dry white wine
800g can chopped tomatoes
4 sprigs thyme
400g dried pappardelle pasta
Grated parmesan and chopped parsley, to serve

STEP 1 Heat 1 tbs oil in a large heavy-based casserole dish or frying pan over medium-high heat. Place flour onto a plate and season with salt and pepper. Lightly coat beef with flour and cook, in batches, until evenly browned. Transfer to a plate.

STEP 2 Heat remaining 1 ths oil in the pan over medium heat. Add leek and cook, stirring for 4-5 minutes until tender. Add parsnips, celery and garlic and cook, stirring often, for 3-4 minutes until heated through. Stir in wine and cook for 1 minute. Stir in beef, tomatoes and thyme, cover and bring to the boil. Reduce heat and simmer, covered and stirring occasionally, for 1½ hours or until beef is very tender. Season to taste. Sprinkle with parsley, just before serving.

STEP 3 Shortly before the ragu is cooked, cook pasta following packet directions. Drain. Serve with the ragu and grated parmesan.

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