

Bruschetta with tomato and basil

Ingredients:

- 2 handfuls nice mixed ripe tomatoes
- 1 small bunch fresh basil, leaves picked
- Sea salt
- Freshly ground pepper
- Olive oil
- Good quality white wine or herb vinegar

Method:

The bread is best-sliced 1cm thick and toasted on a barbeque, but it can also be done in a griddle pan for ease at home. After that it should be lightly rubbed on couple of times with a cut clove of garlic, then drizzled with some good extra virgin olive oil and sprinkled with salt and pepper. The toppings can be as humble or as luxurious as you like, from chopped herbs or a squashed tomato with basil, to marinated vegetables or beautiful cheeses, to lovely flaked crabmeat. The only rule is that whatever goes on top of a bruschetta should be nice and fresh and cooked with care.

Make sure your tomatoes are really ripe when making this topping. Give them a wash, remove their cores and carefully squeeze out the seeds. Place in a bowl, tear in the basil, season with salt and pepper, then toss with a good glug of olive oil and a good swig of vinegar to balance the flavours to your taste. You can serve the tomatoes either chunky or finely chopped, or you can scrunch them between your fingers before putting them on your basic bruschetta- really tasty.

* Add finely chopped
spring onions.

