

Sweet Potato Croquettes

Season: All

Type: Starters

Difficulty: Intermediate

Serves: 30 tastes in the classroom
or 6-8 at home

Fresh from the garden: eggs, sweet potatoes

Recipe source: Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Foundation

Croquettes are small 'cakes' or rolls of vegetables, meat or fish, shaped a little like a sausage and rolled in breadcrumbs before frying. They can't be too big or they won't cook through, but too small and they'll cook too much, too quickly. Croquettes are designed to be crunchy on the outside, and nice and soft on the inside. Try making them as large as will roll easily in your hand.

Once you've mastered this technique you'll be able to think of lots of ingredients and flavours you can use in croquettes.

Equipment:

clean tea towel
chopping board
kitchen knife
vegetable peeler
steamer
colander
fork
metric measuring cups and spoons
3 small bowls
large frying pan
tongs
kitchen paper
plate

Ingredients:

6 large sweet potatoes
1 teaspoon salt
½ teaspoon ground black pepper
3 tablespoons butter
3 tablespoons brown sugar
2 eggs
1 tablespoon water
1 cup plain flour
3 cups breadcrumbs
2 tablespoons vegetable oil



What to do:

1. Peel and chop the sweet potato into chunks, about 2 cm across.
2. Steam the sweet potato until it is tender, about 15 minutes.
3. Drain in a colander, then pour the sweet potato back into the pot and mash it with a fork.
4. In a large bowl, combine the mashed sweet potatoes, salt, pepper, butter and brown sugar. Mix until all ingredients are thoroughly combined.
5. Chill in the freezer for 20 minutes.
6. While the croquette mixture is chilling, lightly beat the eggs in a small bowl, and add 1 tablespoon of water to the lightly beaten eggs. Put the flour and

7. Remove the croquette mixture from the freezer and shape the mixture into small croquettes with your clean hands. Make sure you make enough croquettes for every diner to have at least one.
8. Dip the croquettes into the flour, then into the egg, then back into the breadcrumbs.
9. Heat the oil in a large, shallow pan.
10. Carefully shallow-fry the croquettes in the hot oil until they are golden and crisp on the outside – it should only take a few minutes. Make sure they are not too crowded in the frying pan, and cook them in batches if necessary.
11. Remove from oil and drain on several layers of kitchen paper before serving.

