

FETA Cheese



TIPS, TRICKS, AND EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO MAKE IT YOURS!

WHAT YOU NEED

Ingredients

- 1 packet of feta starter culture store extras in the freezer
- Fresh raw or pasteurized goat milk (avoid ultra-pasteurized or UHT milk)
- Water free of chlorine and fluoride (bottled spring water)
- Rennet, liquid or tablets
- Non-iodized salt

Equipment

- Stainless steel pot with lid
 - Long knife •
 - Spoon, wood or plastic (avoid reactive metals)
- Tight-weave towel or butter muslin
 - Colander and bowl •
 - Large jar for storing cheese •

MAKING CHEESE

- Over low heat, slowly heat 1-4 quarts of fresh milk to 86°F, and then remove the milk from the heat. The milk should be heated no faster than a rate of 1°F per minute. This can take 30-40 minutes for a gallon.
- Add 1 packet of feta starter and mix thoroughly. Then, allow the milk to sit undisturbed for 1 hour at room temperature, 72-77°F.
- Dilute ½ tsp. liquid rennet or ½ tablet in ¼ cup cool water. Mix it into the milk with an up-and-down motion just until incorporated.
- Cover the pot with a lid and culture in a warm spot, 72-77°F, for 12 hours.

MAKING CHEESE

- 5. After 12 hours, the cheese should have set, with a clean break in the curd. Use a long knife to cut the curd into ½-inch cubes.
- 6. Gently stir the curd off and on for 20 minutes.
- Place a colander in a bowl and line the colander with a tight-weave dishtowel or double layer of butter muslin. Spoon in the curds, and then gather up the corners of the cloth and tie the ends together to make a bag. Hang the cloth filled with feta over a bowl to drain the whey at 72-77°F for 4 hours or until no more whey drains off.
- Place the drained curds in a clean jar. Make a brine solution by mixing 2 Tbsp. salt per quart of water. Add the brine solution to the jar and screw on a tight lid. Brine it in the refrigerator for 4-5 days (30 days if using raw milk).