Green Minestrone

Loosely based on several online recipes for this kind of green minestrone



2 tablespoons olive oil

2 large leeks, white and pale-green parts only, chopped

2 large fennel bulbs, finely chopped

1/2 large yellow onion, finely chopped

2 celery stalks, thinly sliced

1 1/2 pounds zucchini, trimmed, diced

1/2 pound brussels sprouts, cleaned, quartered

12 ounces fresh asparagus, trimmed, chopped

6 cups low-sodium chicken broth

2 Parmesan rinds (for flavoring)

2 small carrots, use yellow, if possible

Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper

1 tablespoon dried oregano, crushed in your palms

1/2 cup pasta, your choice (small)

1 cup frozen peas, defrosted

1 1/2 cups Italian parsley (lightly packed) very finely minced

Shaved Parmesan (for serving), use ample A drizzle of EVOO on top

Per Serving (excluding unknown items): 172 Calories; 6g Fat (24.9% calories from fat); 15g Protein; 27g Carbohydrate; 7g Dietary Fiber; 0mg Cholesterol; 117mg Sodium. Exchanges: 1/2 Grain(Starch); 1 Lean Meat; 2 1/2 Vegetable; 1/2 Fat.

Carolyn T's Blog: tastingspoons.com

Servings: 8

- 1. Heat oil in a large heavy pot over medium heat. Cook leek, fennel, yellow onion, and celery, stirring occasionally, until softened but not taking on any color, about 5 minutes. Add broth and Parmesan rinds, then add the dried oregano, brussels sprouts, zucchini and carrots; bring to a boil, reduce heat, and simmer until vegetables are not quite tender, about 5 minutes. Add asparagus and pasta and cook for about 5 minutes.
- 2. Taste vegetables to make sure all are tender; season well with salt and pepper. Remove Parmesan rinds and discard. Rinse the frozen peas under hot water and add to the soup, just long enough to warm them.
- 3. Taste soup for seasoning, scoop $1\,1/2$ cups per bowl and garnish with fresh parsley and lots of grated Parmesan. Then drizzle the top of the soup with EVOO.