NC STATE UNIVERSITY

Pico de Gallo Fresh Salsa

Ingredients

- 4-5 Plum or Roma tomatoes, diced
- ¹/₃ cup onion, finely diced (white, yellow, or red onions will work)
- ¹/₂ of a jalapeño, seeded (or unseeded, if you want extra heat)
- 2-4 tablespoons fresh cilantro, finely minced
- Juice from $\frac{1}{2}$ a lime
- 1 garlic clove
- Sea salt to taste

Instructions

- 1. Toss the diced tomatoes and onion in a bowl, and add in the minced jalapeño and cilantro.
- 2. Start with your clove of peeled garlic and start mincing it like you normally would.
- 3. But keep going. Make those garlic bits smaller and smaller.
- 4. Sprinkle some sea salt on top of your minced bits. And mince some more.
- 5. Now, take the edge of your knife and proceed to smash the minced garlic into the cutting board. We're shooting for pulverized garlic here.
- 6. Switch off between smashing and mincing until the garlic has released it's yummy juices and has turned into a mass of garlic pulp. This takes a bit longer than regular mincing, but it's oh-so worth it. (you could also use a garlic press)
- 7. Add the garlic pulp to the rest of the ingredients.
- 8. Squeeze on the lime juice, sprinkle in some salt, and taste and adjust as needed.

Notes: You can serve your homemade pico de gallo immediately, or store it in the fridge for a while too. I've found sometimes letting it sit for a while improves the flavors as they have a chance to meld. You'll want to eat it within a couple days, though. And keep in mind the peppers often increase in heat a bit the longer it sits.

Author: The Prairie Homestead http://www.theprairiehomestead.com/2015/09/pico-de-gallo-recipe.html

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