

Not Enough Mashed Potatoes for the Holidays?



Every year I notice that there are not enough mashed potatoes to go around at holiday dinners. To solve this problem I have found an old mashed potato recipe. This year I will make the mashed potatoes and I will make sure that we have enough to go around. Please help me alter my recipe for the various numbers of people that might attend holiday dinner at my house.

Perfect Mashed Potatoes Recipe

Ingredients:

1.5 lbs Yukon gold potatoes

0.5 teaspoon of salt

0.25 cups heavy cream

0.125 cups butter

1/16 cup milk

Serves 4 people

Remember to wash and peel the potatoes this year!

1. First of all, I have no idea why most of the recipe is written in decimals. I want to change the decimal values to fractions. Please put the fractional equivalent for each ingredient to the right of each ingredient on the recipe.

2. I understand that we might have 8 to 12 people in total at Thanksgiving. Use the ratio table below to alter the recipe to feed 8, 10 and 12 people Use fraction values unless your teacher tells you otherwise. Extra columns included for in between calculations or other helpful ratios.

Number of People						
Pounds of Potatoes						
Teaspoons Salt						
Cups Heavy Cream						
Cups Butter						
Cups of milk						

2b. How did you go about converting the recipe for 10 people?

2c. I have decided to go ahead and make enough mashed potatoes to serve 32 people. How much of each ingredient should I use? How can you use the information in your ratio table to help you determine this?

3. I am going to test my cooking skills by following this recipe and making the mashed potatoes a couple days early. I don't need to feed four people, so I am going to make mashed potatoes for two people and I will eat them all myself. Determine how much of each ingredient I will need to make mashed potatoes for two people.

4. Explain how you can determine the total amount of each ingredient to use for any number of people attending the party.

5. My friend's family is having a lot of people over for Thanksgiving dinner. They are using my recipe for mashed potatoes and are using 7.5 pounds of potatoes. How many people will their mashed potatoes serve? Explain how you know.