

RECIPES

Here is a selection of easy and delicious hormone-balancing recipes taken from my 30 Days to Happy Hormones online course. Try them on your family too; they'll be surprised how tasty they are!

SMOOTHIES

Very Berry Breakfast Smoothie (Serves 1)

INGREDIENTS

25g of gluten free oats

1 scoop protein powder (vanilla works well here)

1 scoop Superfood greens

1 tbsp coconut oil

400ml milk of your choice (regular, almond or coconut)

1/2 banana

1 tbsp mixed seeds

150g frozen berries - blueberries, raspberries, blackberries, cranberries

1 tbsp maca powder (optional)

Handful of ice

METHOD

Blend all ingredients well and enjoy!

Detox Smoothie (Serves 1)

INGREDIENTS

1 scoop protein powder (organic whey or plant based)

1 scoop superfood greens (I like Life Drink by Terra Nova, but use your favourite)

5cm piece of cucumber

Handful of lettuce

2cm piece courgette

2cm piece celery

1/2 apple

1/2 avocado

Handful of herbs (I like parsley and mint)

Squeeze lemon juice

400ml unsweetened coconut water or filtered water

Handful of ice

Maca Chocolate Smoothie (Serves 1)

INGREDIENTS

250ml almond milk (unsweetened)

half a can of coconut milk

1 tbsp maca

1 tbsp raw cacao

1/2 banana

1 tsp cinnamon

1 scoop protein powder (Vanilla or chocolate)

1 scoop Superfood greens

some ice cubes

METHOD

Blend all ingredients well and enjoy!

OPTIONAL ADD-INS:

Coconut oil

Olive oil

Flax or hemp oil

Maca powder

Ground flaxseeds

Seeds (raw and unprocessed) – pumpkin, sunflower seeds, chia seeds, hemp seeds, sesame seeds

Cinnamon

Greens - kale, salad leaves, cabbage, chard, etc

Avocado

Herbs - parsley, mint, coriander, basil

Fresh ginger, lemon, lime, orange

Berries

Cucumber, celery, fennel

Nut butters - almond, cashew, hazelnut, macadamia

Vanilla paste

Raw cacao powder or nibs

BREAKFASTS

Breakfast is important to fuel you after your overnight fast, and by making it protein/fat based, your blood sugar will be nice and balanced from the start. It will also keep you full til lunchtime.

If you're busy in the morning and don't have much time, then throwing together a smoothie (and taking it with you) is a great option. If you've made a batch of granola then you can have that with full fat organic milk, a non-dairy milk or natural yoghurt (coconut yoghurt is a great option).

Or you can make a Bircher muesli the night before and it's ready to go in the morning.

If you have a bit more time or are fairly hungry, you can make eggs pretty quickly.

I love to make pancakes at the weekend, so have included one of my favourite pancake recipes.

Two eggs (serves 1)

INGREDIENTS

2 eggs (fried in coconut oil, poached, boiled or scrambled) Bacon (organic, free range) or smoked salmon (wild Alaskan) Assorted veg (eg spring onions, greens, spinach, peppers)

METHOD

Cook eggs however you like them – scrambled, poached, fried in coconut oil. Grill the bacon and/or fry assorted veg in some coconut oil, or add smoked salmon. Serve with eggs.

Bircher muesli (serves 2)

INGREDIENTS

125g gluten-free oats

480ml almond milk (unsweetened) or any other milk of your choice

1 apple, grated or sliced

1/2 banana, sliced

Juice of half an orange

Squeeze of lemon

- 1 tbsp mixed seeds (flax, hemp, sunflower, pumpkin)
- 1 tbsp chia seeds
- 1 tsp honey (raw preferably)
- 1 tsp cinnamon

METHOD

Mix the oats, milk, cinnamon, lemon and orange juice, and leave to soak overnight in the fridge. When you're ready to eat it, add your choice of toppings (eg grated apple, banana, honey, seeds).

Paleo banana pancakes (makes 10 small pancakes)

INGREDIENTS

60g almond flour 60g coconut flour

3 eggs

1 ripe mashed banana

1 tsp baking powder

1/2 tsp salt

1 tsp cinnamon

1 tsp vanilla paste

METHOD

Blend all ingredients together to make a batter.

Heat coconut oil in a pan. Add spoonfuls of batter to make small pancakes. Leave to cook on a low heat for a few minutes until firm, then flip and cook the other side.

Top with berries, some raw honey, nuts, seeds, coconut cream or natural yoghurt.

These will keep in the fridge for a few days.

Granola (serves 8-10)

INGREDIENTS

25g gluten-free porridge oats

45g buckwheat or quinoa flakes

50g flaked almonds

50g pecans, roughly chopped

50g walnuts, chopped

75g sunflower seeds

75g pumpkin seeds

2 tbsp flaxseeds

1 tsp cinnamon

4 tbsp melted coconut oil

125ml freshly squeezed orange or apple juice (or coconut water)

1 tbsp raw honey

100g goji berries

METHOD

Mix all ingredients together apart from the goji berries. Mix in melted coconut oil, honey and juice or coconut water. Spread mixture on a greased baking tray and bake in a low oven for 30–40 minutes, stirring half way through. After cooling, add in the berries and store in an airtight container.

LUNCHES/DINNERS

I've included a selection of some of my favourite lunch and dinner recipes. The beauty of these recipes is that they are easy to make and very versatile. You can use dinner leftovers for next day lunch too!

Gem lettuce tuna wraps (serves 1)

A great alternative to your tuna sandwich!

INGREDIENTS

2 gem lettuces

1 tin tuna

2 tbsp organic yoghurt (or coconut yoghurt)

1 tbsp tahini

3 spring onions, chopped small

1/4 of a red pepper, chopped small

1/2 avocado, chopped small

Juice of half a lemon

Salt and pepper

METHOD

Pull apart the gem lettuce 'wraps'.

Mix up the tuna with all the other ingredients.

Pile into each lettuce wrap.

Creamy coconut lentil soup (serves 4)

Packed with nutrients!

INGREDIENTS

200g red lentils

1 tbsp coconut oil

600ml chicken stock (or vegetable stock)

400ml coconut milk

1 onion

2 cloves garlic

2.5cm fresh ginger

1 tsp turmeric

1 tsp cumin powder

1 organic red pepper

Pinch of chilli flakes

Salt and pepper

Juice of a lemon

Handful of coriander

METHOD

Soak lentils in water with a tbsp of cider vinegar for a few hours, then rinse them well. Fry onion, garlic and ginger in coconut oil until soft. Add red pepper, cumin and turmeric and cook for a few minutes. Add lentils, stock, chilli and coconut milk and simmer for one hour, stirring occasionally. Check the lentils are tender, add the seasoning and lemon juice and then serve with a handful of coriander (or parsley).

Sardine pâté (courtesy of Ceri Jones, www.naturalkitchenadventures.com)

Try this even if you're not a fan of sardines – I promise it's delicious and a great way of getting your Omega 3s

INGREDIENTS

1 tin of sardines (in olive oil)

1 clove garlic, minced

2 tbsp natural or coconut yoghurt

Juice of 1 lime

20g fresh coriander

1/2 tsp sea salt

Good twist black pepper

Pinch of cayenne pepper

METHOD

Drain the sardines, reserving the oil. Place in the food processor with the rest of the ingredients and blitz to a spreadable consistency, adding a little of the reserved olive oil if necessary. Taste and adjust seasoning if necessary. Transfer to a small pot, cover and refrigerate until ready to eat. Serve with oatcakes or in little gem lettuce boats.

Tomato basil chicken (serves 2)

A staple in our house

INGREDIENTS

- 1 tbsp lemon juice
- 2 tsp rosemary
- 2 tsp olive oil
- 2 organic chicken breasts
- 1 tbsp coconut oil
- 2 large or 4 medium tomatoes, diced
- 1 tbsp fresh basil
- 2 onions, minced
- 2 tsp balsamic vinegar

Salt and pepper

METHOD

Combine lemon juice, rosemary, oil, salt and pepper in a medium dish and add chicken. Coat on all sides; cover and refrigerate for 1/2 to 1 hour. Drain marinade and discard.

Grill chicken for 6-8 minutes on each side.

Heat coconut oil and cook onions until soft. Add tomatoes, basil and balsamic vinegar and heat through. Serve with chicken.

Chilli and garlic prawns (serves 2)

Buttery garlicky prawns, what's not to like?

INGREDIENTS

300g raw king prawns

1 red chilli - deseeded and chopped small

3 cloves garlic, minced

2 tbsp butter (or coconut oil)

METHOD

Heat up coconut oil or butter in frying pan. Add chilli and prawns. Add the garlic and cook until prawns are pink (don't overcook or they will be chewy).

Eat as they are for a quick lunch or serve with rice noodles, vegetables and brown rice or cauliflower rice.

Vegetable frittata (serves 1)

So quick and versatile - you can add bacon or smoked salmon if you want to jazz it up

INGREDIENTS

2 organic eggs

1 tbsp coconut oil

100g cherry tomatoes, cut in half

2 spring onions

Large handful of spinach

1 tbsp nutritional yeast flakes (or grated cheese)

Handful of basil

Handful of parsley

METHOD

Whisk the eggs with 2 tbsp of water.

Heat the coconut oil in an ovenproof frying pan with 1 tbsp of water. Add the tomatoes, onions and spinach and cook until spinach begins to wilt. Sprinkle over the herbs. Pour in the eggs, cook lightly then sprinkle on nutritional yeast flakes (or cheese) and transfer to a preheated oven. Bake for 10–12 minutes until well-risen and golden brown. If you don't have an oven-proof frying pan, you can put the pan under a hot grill until the eggs are cooked through and golden brown.

Quinoa tabbouleh with feta (serves 4-6)

A great dish to make and store in the fridge for lunches and side dishes

INGREDIENTS

250g cooked quinoa (or mix of quinoa and lentils)

1 bunch spring onions, chopped

1/2 red or yellow pepper, chopped

Handful fresh mint

Handful chopped parsley

1 garlic clove, chopped

1 fresh red chilli, finely chopped

Small cucumber, chopped

Small punnet of cherry tomatoes (or 2 large tomatoes), chopped small

100g feta cheese, cubed

1 tbsp hemp seeds (or other seeds of choice)

Juice of 1 lemon

3 tbsp olive oil

Salt and pepper

METHOD

Place all ingredients in a mixing bowl and toss together lightly. Chill for 1 hour or more to allow flavours to blend.

Roast cod and lentils (serves 4)

A really tasty way of eating fish

INGREDIENTS

2 tbsp coconut oil, plus extra for greasing

2 tsp mild curry powder

4 x 200g pieces thick cod fillet

For the lentils:

200g puy lentils

2 tbsp coconut oil, melted

2 large garlic cloves, finely chopped

1 medium-hot red chilli, deseeded and finely chopped

1/2 tsp ground cumin

1 small red onion, finely chopped

1 leek, sliced and chopped

4 tbsp fresh chicken stock

Lemon juice, to taste

3 tbsp chopped fresh coriander

METHOD

If lentils are not precooked, cook them in a pan of simmering water for 20 minutes, or until tender. After 15 minutes, mix the melted coconut oil for the fish with the curry powder. Brush all over the cod and season.

Bake in the oven for 10-12 minutes.

Drain the lentils. Heat the remaining oil in a clean pan. Add the onions, garlic, chilli and cumin. Once sizzling, stir in the lentils and stock, until warmed through. Add the lemon juice and season to taste. Stir in the coriander.

Spoon onto warmed plates. Place the cod on top.

Thai green chicken curry (serves 2-3)

This one ticks all the boxes for me

INGREDIENTS

1 tbsp coconut oil

2 chicken breasts

1 large onion

2 garlic cloves

1 inch piece ginger

1 red chilli

Packet of Thai green paste

Handful green beans/sugar snaps

Handful of mushrooms

1/2 can coconut milk

100ml chicken stock

Handful of coriander, chopped

METHOD

Heat coconut oil in pan. Add onion and gently fry til soft. Add chopped ginger, chilli and garlic, cook for a minute.

Add mushrooms and cook for a minute or two. Add chicken pieces and brown. Add chicken

stock and coconut milk, salt and pepper, stir and leave to simmer for 15 minutes, then add green beans/sugar snaps and cook for another 5 minutes.

Add a sprinkling of coriander and serve in a bowl, with brown rice or guinoa.

Baked sweet potato with hummus (serves 2)

Homemade hummus is the best!

INGREDIENTS

2 sweet potatoes

1 x 400g can chickpeas, rinsed and drained

2 tbsp tahini

1 garlic clove (or 1 tsp garlic powder)

Juice of a lemon

2 tbsp olive oil

Salt and pepper

METHOD

Roast the sweet potatoes in a tray for 40 minutes.

Meanwhile make the hummus. Mix all ingredients in food processor/blender, adding extra oil according to preferred consistency.

Cut the sweet potatoes lengthways and dollop in the hummus. Serve with salad.

Healthy fried chicken (serves 2)

A great alternative to chicken nuggets for the kids!

INGREDIENTS

2 organic chicken breast pieces, chopped into bite-sized chunks

1 egg, beaten

1 cup coconut or almond flour

1 tbsp coconut oil

METHOD

Heat up coconut oil in frying pan. Put beaten egg in a wide bowl, coconut or almond flour in another bowl. Dip chicken pieces in egg, then the flour. Repeat one more time.

Fry chicken until golden on both sides.

Serve with green salad, vegetables, brown rice or sautéed greens.

Sautéed greens

Who says greens are tasteless?

INGREDIENTS

Large bunch of greens (e.g. kale, chard, collard greens, cabbage)

2 cloves garlic

1/2 inch of fresh ginger

1/2 small red chilli, deseeded (optional)

1 tbsp coconut oil

2 tsp sherry or cider vinegar

Salt and pepper

METHOD

Wash greens and slice thinly. Heat coconut oil in a large frying pan. Add chilli, ginger and garlic. Then add greens and cook until wilted. Add vinegar, salt and pepper and serve.

Home-made chicken stock

A great source of collagen – good for your gut, skin, bones and joints. You can use this stock in soups, sauces and gravies.

INGREDIENTS

Bones from a whole organic chicken (or 2!)

- 1 bay leaf
- 2 stalks celery, roughly chopped
- 1 large onion, peeled and roughly chopped
- 2 carrots, peeled and roughly chopped

Handful of herbs (optional)

Salt and pepper

METHOD

Put all the ingredients into a large soup pot, cover with cold water and bring to a boil over high heat. Turn the heat to low and simmer with the lid on for 5–10 hours to really get the juices out of the bones.

Let the stock cool then strain into glass containers (I use old jars) to freeze for up to six months. This is great to do in a slow cooker – you can leave it on low overnight.

DESSERTS

I love desserts! And I know a lot of women who find it hard to give up a sweet treat for good. The good news is that these recipes are not going to derail your healthy lifestyle, as long as you eat them in moderation of course.

Healthy chocolate mousse (makes 8-10)

You won't believe how good this tastes (hint - you can't taste the avocado!)

INGREDIENTS

1 ripe avocado

1 tbsp raw cacao powder

50g soft pitted dates

1 tbsp raw honey

1 tbsp coconut cream

Juice of a lime

METHOD

Blend all ingredients together until smooth, adjust sweetener to your taste and pop into fridge for a few hours to firm up.

Coconut mango cream (serves 1)

A delicious tropical treat!

INGREDIENTS

1 small tub of coconut yoghurt (I like Coyo or Coconut Collaborative)

1 tsp vanilla paste

1 mango, peeled and chopped

METHOD

Whizz up all ingredients in a blender, chill and serve.

Super berry 'cheese' cake

A great dessert to make to impress your friends and family

INGREDIENTS

Base:

320g nuts (almonds, macadamias or hazelnuts)

90g pitted medjool dates

Filling:

300g cashew nuts, soaked in water overnight, then drained

Juice of 1 lemon

3 tbsp maple syrup or coconut nectar

3 tbsp coconut oil, warmed

1 tsp vanilla paste

Top:

90g pitted medjool dates

250g fresh or frozen berries (you can choose raspberries, strawberries, blueberries or a mixture)

METHOD

Grease a 22cm round tin or dish with butter or coconut oil. Blitz the base ingredients in a food processor until well combined. Press the mixture into the dish and pop in to the fridge to set. For the filling, put all the ingredients plus 100ml of water into a blender and blend until smooth. Pour over the base and put into freezer for a couple of hours to set.

For the topping, put ingredients into a blender and blend until smooth. Pour over the cheesecake and it's ready to serve.

Raw chocolate truffles (makes 8-10)

I'd keep these to yourself!

INGREDIENTS

50g walnuts

50g hemp or chia seeds

100g dates

1 tbsp ground almonds

1 tbsp almond butter

50g cacao powder

1 tbsp maca powder

2 tbsp raw honey

Crushed seeds or coconut for rolling

METHOD

Mix all ingredients in a food processor until you can mould into ball shapes. Coat each truffle in mixed crushed seeds or desiccated coconut.

Chill in fridge until set.