

BABA GHANOUSH

Makes 4–6 servings.

This eggplant with tahini has a creamy consistency, a smoky taste of grilled eggplant and a lemony taste.

It is a lovely first course or goes well with cocktails. I like to serve it with warm pita, radishes, cucumbers and bell peppers.

INGREDIENTS

- 2 medium to large eggplants, about 1 pound each
- 1/3 cup sesame paste (tahini), mixed well.
- 3 tablespoons lemon juice, approx
- Kosher salt
- Freshly ground black pepper

PREPARATION

- 1. Preheat the broiler.
- 2. Cut the eggplants in half lengthwise. Discard the thick stems. Remove seeds with a spoon, as needed.
- 3. Place the eggplants cut side down on a foil lined baking sheet. Broil close to the heat source for about 20 minutes, or until the skin is black and blistered and the eggplants feel very soft inside.

- 4. Let cool for a few minutes. Discard peel and scoop the flesh into a colander to drain. Then puree the eggplant flesh in a food processor with the tahini, lemon juice, salt and pepper.
- 5. Season well.
- 6. After refrigeration adjust the seasoning.