

Allan Albert Teoh is a self-taught baker whose hobby of weekend baking flourished into a popular culinary enterprise, AllanBakes. Well known for his delicious cheesecakes, Allan was crowned one of the four Cheesecake Heavenly Kings (2009) in a countrywide contest organised by Lianhe Wanbao. Allan's wonderful treats have also been recognised further afield at the Gourmand World Cookbook Awards, where his first book, AllanBakes Really Good *Cakes*, clinched the Best Desserts Cookbook Award for Singapore in 2011. His second book, AllanBakes Really Good Treats, was named the Best Pastries Book for Singapore in 2013.

In 2012, Allan mentored the winner and runner-up of the Junior MasterChef Australia (Season 2) when they visited Singapore to do a cooking demonstration at the Singapore Expo. Subsequently, Allan became a full-time culinary coach and consultant. In 2017, Allan joined Chef's Secrets Cooking and Baking Resource Centre as a partner. Allan continues to share his love for cooking and baking through the culinary workshops that he conducts, as well as through his cookbooks.

Home-cooked Meals: Favourite Asian Dishes and More celebrates the comfort of sharing a home-cooked meal with family and friends. In this collection, popular culinary consultant Allan Albert Teoh presents 45 mouthwatering dishes that can be mixed and matched to form a satisfying meal. Choose from a variety of Asian home-style favourites such as rendang daging (spicy dry beef stew), fish head curry and stir-fried ladies' fingers; or prepare simple one-dish classics like white bee hoon (braised seafood vermicelli) and kampong fried rice. Round off a perfect meal with desserts such as *pulut tai tai* (glutinous rice cakes with coconut jam) and rose coconut ladu (sweet coconut balls), which are sure to delight your loved ones. Cooking at home becomes a simple pleasure with Allan's easy-to-follow recipes.

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Allan Albert Teoh

HOME-COOKED MEALS

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Allan Albert Teoh



For Review 0

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In loving memory of my late parents, especially my mum, Madam Ong Su Wha, who shared her recipes with me, taught me how to cook and showed me the importance of family and love.

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Introduction

The idea for this book was prompted by my nephew Songzhi when he sought advice from me on preparing a dish that I made at home often — sweet and sour prawns. At that time, he had just gone abroad to study and wanted to prepare his own meals. It occurred to me then that I hadn't written down my recipes for my family to refer to. Thus, I began compiling recipes for easy-to-make dishes that would remind Songzhi of home.

view Only

When I consider food that reminds me of home, I think of all the dishes I can enjoy in Singapore, including foods from different cultures. This collection also includes dishes that I've tried — whether prepared by friends or from a hawker stall or restaurant — which I would then recreate at home. I also share recipes for traditional dishes that were passed to me by my mother who was a great cook.

Students I meet in class often cite complex steps and ingredients that are difficult to obtain as reasons why they avoid cooking at home. I'd like to encourage more people to cook and enjoy a meal at home, so I've tried my best to use ingredients that are readily available in wet markets or supermarkets. I've also kept the steps straightforward, but feel free to experiment and make adjustments to suit your own palate. Cooking at home should be a playful experience; you'll get a good meal and lots of fun from the whole process. The preparation of food is a multi-sensory engagement. While testing and tweaking the recipes for this book, I had the pleasure of taking in delightful aromas; like the warmth and sweetness of five-spice powder, and the bright citrusy notes of lemons; and tasting hot and fiery chillies, and countering the spiciness with the creamy and sour tang of yoghurt. I sincerely hope that you will have as much fun preparing these dishes as I had.

Happy cooking!

Allan Albert Teoh

Chap Chye Chye Review Only Mixed Vegetable Stew

Serves 5

3 Tbsp corn oil 20 g dried shrimps

3 cloves garlic, peeled and chopped

2 slices ginger, peeled

 $1^{1/2}$ Tbsp fermented soy bean paste (*tau cheo*)

150 g round cabbage, shredded

20 g baby corn, halved lengthwise 50 g carrot, stamped into flower shapes 5 dried wood ear

(black) fungus, soaked in hot water to soften

5 dried Chinese mushrooms, soaked in hot water to soften, drained and sliced

10 boiled ginkgo nuts

10 snow peas 20 g dried lily buds,

tips trimmed, knotted, soaked in hot water to soften and drained 1 tsp castor sugar + more as needed

300 ml water

1 tsp chicken seasoning powder + more as needed

> ¹/₂ tsp salt + more as needed

70 g glass noodles (*tang hoon*), soaked in water to soften and drained

5 dried bean curd sticks (*tau kee*)

- 1. Heat oil in a pot over medium-high heat. Add dried shrimps, garlic and ginger and fry for a few minutes. Stir in fermented soy bean paste and cook until fragrant.
- 2. Add cabbage, baby corn and carrot and stir-fry until the vegetables are softened.
- 3. Add dried wood ear fungus, mushrooms, ginkgo nuts, snow peas and dried lily buds. Stir well to mix.
- Add enough water to cover the vegetables. You may not need to add all the water. Season with sugar, chicken seasoning powder and salt. Cover and let mixture simmer for 20–25 minutes over medium-low heat.
- 5. Add glass noodles and bean curd sticks and cook for another 5 minutes or until cooked through. Season to taste again.
- 6. Serve warm.



Port Wine Echieken Review Only

Serves 5

1 kg chicken, pat dry, chopped into 15 pieces

2 litres water

1 cinnamon stick

5 cloves

50 g castor sugar 50 ml dark soy sauce 40 ml rice vinegar Ground black pepper, to taste Corn oil, as needed 10 shallots, peeled and sliced 125 ml port wine 7 cream crackers, finely pounded

- 1. In a large pot over medium-high heat, place chicken, water, cinnamon stick and cloves, and bring to a boil. When it comes to a boil, remove from heat. Drain chicken and retain 200 ml chicken stock. Set aside.
- 2. Combine sugar, dark soy sauce, rice vinegar and pepper in a large bowl.
- 3. Heat sufficient oil in a wok. When oil is hot enough, fry chicken until slightly brown. Remove from heat and set aside.
- 4. In the same wok, add more oil and fry shallots until slightly brown and fragrant. Add soy sauce mixture and chicken. Stir-fry for 5 minutes.
- 5. Add port wine and 150 ml chicken stock. For a thinner gravy, add more stock. Simmer chicken until tender, then gradually add cream crackers to thicken the gravy.
- 6. When crackers are well incorporated, remove from heat and serve hot.





Sotong Masak Hitam Squid in Black Ink

Serves 5

500 g squid

3–4 Tbsp corn oil

2 medium red onions, peeled and thinly sliced

3 cloves garlic, peeled and minced

3-cm knob old ginger, peeled and minced

2 stalks lemongrass (white portion only), sliced

3 lime leaves, torn into halves 3 red chillies, sliced

2 green chillies, halved lengthwise and seeds removed Water as needed ¹/₂ tsp salt ¹/₂ tsp ground white pepper ¹/₄ tsp castor sugar

- 1. Clean squid and discard the innards. Reserve 4–5 squid ink sacs, which are small, tear-shaped silvery pouches. Break ink sacs over a bowl, collect ink and set aside.
- 2. Slice squid into 1-cm thick rings.
- 3. Heat oil in a frying pan over medium-high heat and sauté onion and garlic until aromatic. Add ginger, lemongrass and lime leaves and cook for 2 minutes.
- 4. Add red and green chillies and cook for 1 minute. Push mixture towards the sides of the pan to make a well before adding squid ink. Stir quickly to mix and add a little water if mixture is thick.
- 5. Add squid, salt, pepper and sugar and simmer for 1–2 minutes. Be careful not to overcook the squid.
- 6. Once squid is cooked through, remove from heat and serve hot.

NOTE

Be careful when breaking the ink sacs as the process can be quite messy. Ink stains on clothing can be difficult to remove.

