

Arroz con Pollo

Arroz con Pollo is one of many one-pot rice recipes from all over the world: biryani from South Asia, paella from Spain, jambalaya from the Southern US, risotto from Italy... and here we have the Mexican version - translated simply as Rice with Chicken. We use our Mexican blend to create a delicious, slightly spicy dish, perfect with a serving of tomato and avocado salad on the side. Don't leave out the lime juice, which gives this a lovely tangy flavour! See Cook's notes for how to cook this using leftover rice. **serves 4-6**

- 700g chicken breast or thigh, cut into bite-sized pieces
- 2 tbsp oil
- 1 carton <u>Mexican blend</u> (we suggest the mild one!), or 1 tbsp each ground cumin & smoked paprika
- 1 large onion, finely sliced
- 4 cloves garlic, crushed
- 400g long-grain rice, rinsed several times to remove the starch
- 2 chicken stock cubes and 2 tbsp tomato puree in 1 litre water
- 2 peppers, any colour, diced
- 1 small tin sweetcorn
- limes
- a handful of chopped coriander
- a scattering of feta/cheshire/wensleydale cheese (optional)
- 1. Mix the oil with the spices and use them to coat the chicen pieces. Leave to marinate for an hour or two.
- 2. About an hour before you are ready to eat heat a wide casserole and gently fry the chicken until browned.
- 3. Add the onion and fry for a couple of minutes before adding the garlic and peppers.
- 4. Add the rice, sweetcorn and the stock/tomato in water mixture. Bring to the boil, then cover and simmer until the rice is cooked.
- 5. Give the dish a stir after about 20 minutes to ensure the rice is cooking evenly. Once you are sure it is cooked, turn off the heat and leave for a few minutes to settle.
- 6. Squeeze in the juice of a lime and stir in the coriander. Serve with lime wedges and an avocado and tomato salad.



Cook's notes:

- We haven't given an exact cooking time as it all depends on your hob and the size of your pan and also whether you are using ordinary long-grain rice or basmati so give it the occasional stir and keep an eye on it.
- If you have leftover plain rice you can still make a version of this dish: marinate the chicken as above before frying the onions, garlic and pepper. Add the chicken to this mixture and cook for a few minutes before adding the sweetcorn and cooked rice. Stir well, then cover and heat gently for about 20 minutes until the chick is cooked. Stir in a squeeze of lime and the chopped coriander.