Seared Chicken & Roasted Acorn Squash with Sautéed Kale & Chestnut Pan Sauce Seared in a hot pan, juicy, crispyskinned chicken is delicious enough on its own. But in this recipe, we're serving our chicken under a very special pan sauce-made with honey, lemon juice, fresh rosemary and (in true holiday spirit) chestnuts. As sides for this gourmet entrée, we're serving sautéed kale with seasonal acorn squash, roasted with a little nutmeg to accent its delightfully nutty, sweet flavor. Let's celebrate great company with great food, chefs!



Ingredients

- 4 Boneless, Skin-On Chicken Breasts
- 1 Acorn Squash
- 1 Bunch Kale
- 1 Lemon
- 1 Yellow Onion
- 1 Bunch Rosemary

Knick Knacks

- 2 Tablespoons Butter
- 2 Tablespoons Roasted, Peeled Chestnuts
- 1 Tablespoon Honey
- 1 Teaspoon Ground Nutmeg

Makes 4 Servings About 540 Calories Per Serving

Prep Time: 15 min | Cook Time: 25 to 35 min



Prepare the ingredients:

Preheat the oven to 450°F. Wash and dry the fresh produce. Using a sturdy knife, cut off and discard both ends of the squash; halve lengthwise, then scoop out and discard the pulp and seeds. Slice the squash crosswise into $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch-thick pieces. Peel, halve and thinly slice the onion. Remove and discard the kale stems; roughly chop the leaves. Finely chop the chestnuts. Pick the rosemary leaves off the stems; discard the stems and roughly chop the leaves. Quarter and deseed the lemon.



Cook the kale:

While the squash roasts, in a large pan, heat 1 tablespoon of olive oil on medium-high until hot. Add the **onion**; season with salt and pepper. Cook, stirring occasionally, 2 to 3 minutes, or until softened. Add the **kale** and ½ **cup of water**; season with salt and pepper. Cook, stirring occasionally, 3 to 5 minutes, or until the kale has wilted and the water has evaporated. Transfer to a serving dish and set aside in a warm place. Wipe out the pan.



Make the pan sauce:

To the pan of reserved fond, add the honey, chestnuts, rosemary, the juice of all 4 lemon wedges and ½ cup of water; season with salt and pepper. Cook on medium-high, stirring occasionally and scraping up any fond from the bottom of the pan, 2 to 3 minutes, or until slightly reduced in volume. Stir in the butter until melted and thoroughly combined. Remove from heat and season with salt and pepper to taste.



Roast the squash:

Place the **squash** on a sheet pan. Drizzle with olive oil and season with salt, pepper and the **nutmeg**; toss to thoroughly coat. Arrange in a single, even layer. Roast, flipping halfway through, 24 to 26 minutes, or until golden brown and tender when pierced with a fork. Remove from the oven; transfer to a serving dish and set aside in a warm place.



Cook the chicken:

While the squash continues to roast, pat the **chicken** dry with paper towels; season with salt and pepper on both sides. In the pan used to cook the kale, heat 1 tablespoon of olive oil on medium-high until hot. Add the seasoned chicken, skin sides down. Cook 4 to 6 minutes per side, or until browned and cooked through. Transfer to a serving dish and set aside in a warm place, leaving any browned bits (or fond) in the pan.



Serve your dish:

Top the **cooked chicken** with the **pan sauce**. Serve with the **roasted squash** and **cooked kale** on the side. Enjoy!