

# **INGREDIENTS** (serves 4)

# **Grilled Dilly Chicken Tenders**

1 lb. boneless, skinless chicken breasts or thighs ½ cup nonfat Greek yogurt 1 dill pickle spear, minced

2 tbsp. dill pickle juice

1tbsp. hot sauce

½ tsp. garlic powder

½ tsp. onion powder

½ tsp. dried dill (or 2 tsp. fresh dill)

¼ cup grated Parmesan cheese

### Air Fried Taters

4 medium russet potatoes, cubed 1tbsp. olive oil ¼ tsp. salt 1tbsp. nutritional yeast (optional)

#### **Steamed Green Beans**

1lb. green beans (fresh or frozen) 1tbsp. low-sodium soy sauce ½ tsp. garlic powder 2 tsp. sesame oil (optional)

### **DIRECTIONS**

- Pound the chicken to ½ inch thick and slice into 1-inch strips. Mix all chicken marinade
  ingredients in a bowl, add chicken, and toss to coat. Marinate for 30 minutes to 2 hours
  in the refrigerator.
- Soak cubed potatoes in cold water for 10 minutes, then pat dry. For easy clean-up, line
  the air fryer with foil. Preheat the air fryer to 400°F. Toss potatoes with olive oil, salt,
  and nutritional yeast. Arrange in a single layer and air fry for 15-20 minutes, shaking
  every 5 minutes.
- Preheat the grill to medium-high (400°F). Grill chicken strips for 5-7 minutes per side.
   To avoid over cooking remove the chicken from the grill when the temperature reaches 160°F (the residual heat will raise the temperature to 165°F). Let rest for 5 minutes before slicing.
- 4. For the green beans, combine all ingredients in a microwave-safe dish with 2 tablespoons of water. Cover and microwave for 8 minutes.
- 5. Serve each plate with a quarter of the chicken, potatoes, and green beans.

### **NOTES**

 Take advantage of starting up the grill and double the batch of chicken. Use the extra chicken for wraps or salads later in the week.

#### **DIETITIAN TIP**

Whether you are an athlete or someone who stays active, balanced protein choices fuel a stronger, healthier body. Utilize a variety of food sources to ensure you're getting enough protein along with necessary fiber, vitamins, and minerals.

# **NUTRITION EDUCATION**

Protein isn't found only in animal products; vegetables and grains also provide some protein. Animal-based proteins are considered complete proteins because they contain all the essential amino acids. In contrast, most plant-based proteins lack one or more essential amino acids and are thus not complete proteins. However, just because a plant-based protein may not provide all the amino acids doesn't mean it's not beneficial for protein metabolism. By eating a variety of foods and combining them strategically, you can ensure that any limiting amino acids from one plant-based source are complemented by other foods resulting in complete proteins.

To effectively meet your protein needs in an economical and easy manner, consider these tips:

- 1. Diversify Your Sources: Mix animal and plant-based proteins (for example, chicken with green beans and cheese).
- 2. Time It Right: Aim for 20-40 grams of protein after your workout. If you work out before dinner, the protein from your meal will contribute to your recovery.
- 3. Portion Awareness: For reference, 3 ounces of cooked chicken (approximately the size of a deck of cards) provides about 26 grams of protein, while  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup of legumes (about the size of a tennis ball) offers about 8 grams.

