Spring Rolls With Spicy Sesame Lime Sauce

Flavor Profile: Asian Makes approx 8 rolls with 1/2 c sauce

Ingredients:

Spring Roll Wrappers or lettuce leaves 1 block firm or extra-firm tofu, pressed 1/2 English cucumber, julienned 1 red bell pepper, julienned 2 medium carrots, peeled & julienned 2 green onions, chopped 3-4 lettuce leaves, julienned 1/4 cup fresh Thai basil leaves, minced 1/4 cup cilantro, thick stems removed Sea salt, to season (Roasted Sesame Seeds)



Sauce:

2 garlic cloves
2 tbsp sesame oil
1/4 cup roasted sesame seed butter
1/2-1 tbsp peeled ginger, chopped
3 tbsp fresh lime juice
2 tbsp low sodium tamari
2 tsp sugar
1-3 tsp water, to thin out as needed

Directions:

1. Press the tofu while you prepare the filling and sauce.

2. For the filling: Julienne the vegetables (slice into long thin strips). Finely chop herbs.

3. For the sauce: In a mini processor, process the garlic until minced. Now add the rest of the ingredients and process again until smooth. Adjust ingredients to taste. You may prefer more sweetener, tamari, oil, or lime juice. Or simply mince ingredients and whisk together.

4. Slice pressed tofu into long thin strips. You likely won't need the entire block.

5. Set up a roll making station and gather all of your ingredients in one area. Place a tea towel on the counter and fill a very large bowl with hot tap water. Dip one rice paper wrapper into the water and carefully submerge it once it gets soft. Hold it under water for about 10 seconds, or until soft, and remove from water carefully. Place it onto the tea towel and unfold any corners that may have rolled up.

6. Add the filling ingredients in the center or bottom third of the wrapper. Be careful not to overfill or the wrappers will tear. Sprinkle with roasted sesame seeds, if desired, and a sprinkle of salt.

7. Roll the two sides of the rice wrapper inward and then flip the bottom over top the filling and roll forward tightly. Place roll on a plate and cover with damp paper towels. Repeat for the rest.

8. Serve the rolls immediately with the dipping sauce. If you have any leftover vegetables, you may enjoy them dipped in the sauce on the side. Sauce should keep for at least a week in a sealed container in the fridge. Rolls will keep for 1 day in the fridge rolled in a damp paper towel. Enjoy the sauce on salad too.