BACON PESTO MAC & CHEESE

- 1 1/2 lbs Farmland Bacon, cut into 1/4 inch strips
- 1 lb Elbow macaroni
- 8 Tbsp Butter, unsalted
- 1/2 cup Flour
- 1 tsp Salt, plus more to taste
- 1/4 tsp Pepper plus more to taste
- 3 cups Whole milk, more as needed
- 1 cup Cheddar cheese, milk, shredded
- 1 cup Mozzarella cheese, shredded
- 8 ounces Pesto

- 1. In large skillet over medium heat, cook bacon, stirring occasionally, until crisp, 15 to 18 minutes. Use slotted spoon to transfer bacon to a paper towel-lined plate. Set aside.
- 2. While bacon is cooking, in large saucepan or small stockpot, cook pasta according to package directions. Drain and set aside.
- 3. Wipe out saucepan or small stockpot and return it to medium heat.
- 4. Add butter. When butter is melted, sprinkle in flour, salt, and pepper and cook, whisking, for 2 minutes. Slowly add milk, whisking.
- 5. Continue cooking and whisking until mixture thickens, about 3 minutes. Reduce heat to low and stir in the cheeses.
- 6. Stir in the pasta and pesto. Set aside 1 cup of bacon and stir in the remaining bacon. Add more salt and pepper, to taste.
- 7. Serve immediately, garnished with reserved bacon.
- 8. TIP: If mixture gets too thick as it cools, stir in additional milk.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Ingredients	<u>1 1/2 lbs Farmland Bacon, cut into 1/4 inch strips, 1 cup Cheddar</u> cheese, milk, shredded, <u>1 cup Mozzarella cheese, shredded, 1 lb</u> Elbow macaroni, <u>1 tsp Salt, plus more to taste, 1/2 cup Flour, 1/4 tsp</u> Pepper plus more to taste, <u>3 cups Whole milk, more as needed, 8</u> ounces Pesto, <u>8 Tbsp Butter, unsalted</u>
Course	Entrees, Sides
Cuisine	American, BBQ
Category	Mac N Cheese