

## Salsa al pomodoro



### INGREDIENTS

2 lbs. ripe tomatoes  
1 small onion, diced  
5 tbs. very good olive oil  
1 clove garlic (optional)  
10 fresh, basil leaves  
salt  
pepper

### Preparation

Scald the tomatoes in boiling water. Cool, peel, seed and either dice or crush them. Wash and chop the basil leaves.

Heat the oil in a skillet and sauté the garlic. Remove when brown. Add the onion and sauté over medium heat until the onion begins to get tender (do not let it brown), stirring occasionally. Add the tomatoes, salt to taste. Cover and let simmer for about an hour, stirring now and then. Add the basil at the end.

The sauce is now ready to be used. If fresh tomatoes are not available, canned peeled tomatoes may be used, provided they are of good quality. If the tomatoes are not very ripe, add a small carrot, finely diced, to the soffritto. This will help to tone down the acidity of the unripe tomatoes.

Good tomato sauce is the basic condiment of many a wonderful dish.