Red Peas Soup

It's Saturday and everyone is looking forward to a hot bowl of soup. Red Peas Soup is one of the most common soups here in Jamaica, but strangely, stands as a challenge for persons to make.

Well, if you are a victim of such a challenge, here are some easy-to-follow steps that will lead you to preparing a hot and scrumptious pot of soup for the whole family.

Red Peas Soup with Gavin Plowright

INGREDIENTS 1 lb red peas 1 lb diced chicken 8 oz chopped onion 4 oz chopped garlic 6 oz diced carrots 4 oz chopped escallion 1 qt water (or as needed) 6 oz diced Irish potatoes 6 fl oz coconut cream 1 oz thyme 1 pepper Salt to taste

METHOD

1 In a pot, add one pound red peas with one quart water and boil peas until tender (pressure cook if needed). If water evaporates, continue adding until the peas are cooked.

2 When peas become tender, remove half of the peas with some amount of liquid and set aside.

3 Add chicken to the remaining liquid. Boil until almost cooked then add potatoes and carrots. Allow to simmer for an additional five minutes.

4 Season with garlic, onion, thyme, escallion and scotch bonnet pepper, salt and pepper to taste.

5 When vegetables are tender and chicken is fully cooked, purée the other half of peas, which was removed earlier then return to pot.

6 Add coconut cream then check and adjust seasoning to desired taste with salt and pepper.