



A Well-Stocked Pantry

It's important to understand that what a chef has in their pantry will vary widely with the seasons and their particular style of cooking, but there are a few staples that I feel make up a well-stocked pantry and open up a world of possibilities for cooking a tremendous array of dishes on the fly. If you're stocked with these items, you can make just about any recipe on my site.

So, here's what I typically keep on hand:

Spices

Bay Leaves
Black Peppercorns
White pepper
Cardamom (whole)
Cayenne Pepper
Chili Powder
Cinnamon (stick)
Cloves (whole)
Cream of Tartar
Crushed Red Pepper
Cumin (whole)
Coriander (whole)
Garam masala
Garlic Powder
Ginger (fresh and ground)
Kosher Salt
Mustard Seed
Mustard (ground)
Madras Curry Powder
Nutmeg (whole)
Onion Powder
Paprika (smoked and sweet varieties)
Rosemary, ground
Sage
Sesame Seeds (black and white)
Thyme, dry
Turmeric

Fresh Herbs

Oregano
Thyme
Cilantro
Parsley (flat leaf)

NOTE: fresh herbs only keep for a week or so, and these are the ones I use most commonly. I prefer fresh herbs to dried for most applications, so I'll usually pick up fresh dill, rosemary, tarragon or basil if the dish I'm planning calls for it.

Sauces/condiments/etc.

Garlic (lots of it, both fresh and roasted)
Heinz® Ketchup
Grey Poupon® Dijon mustard

French's® Yellow mustard
Lea & Perrins® Worcestershire sauce
Best Foods® or Hellman's® Mayonnaise
Brer Rabbit® Molasses
Kikkoman® Soy Sauce
Pearl River Bridge® Premium Dark Soy Sauce
Kwong Hung Seng® Black Soy Sauce (sweet)
San-J Tamari (GF soy sauce)
Tiparos® Fish Sauce
Crystal® Hot sauce
Valentina® Hot sauce
Huy Fong® Sambal Olek
Huy Fong® Sriracha
Red wine vinegar
White wine vinegar
Apple Cider Vinegar
Distilled White Vinegar
Rice wine vinegar
Trader Joe's® Gold Quality Balsamic vinegar (every day use in vinaigrettes, etc.)
Leonardi® Aceto Balsamico di Modena I.G.P. (the good stuff, used sparingly, and always by itself)
Red wine (Cabernet)
White wine (Chablis)
Cooking Sherry
Beef stock
Chicken stock
Vegetable stock
Better than Bouillon® Beef
Better than Bouillon® Chicken
Better than Bouillon® Vegetable
C&H® Dark brown sugar
C&H® White sugar
Gold Medal® AP Flour
Gold Medal® Whole Wheat Flour
Quaker® Masa Harina
Clabber Girl® Baking powder
Arm & Hammer® Baking soda
California® Extra Virgin Olive Oil
Canola oil
Sesame oil