A Perfect Combination for **Crunchy Crostini**

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By Susie Iventosch



Blue cheese-olive crostini

vorite and one that my hus- School. band's mom, Dolores Iventosch,

his appetizer is a family fa- class reunion from Berkeley High

The combination of melted ther-in-law's 85th birthday celebrataught me to make. I think she made blue cheese and olives was an imit for many years prior to my first in- mediate hit with me! She had troduction, which was back in the hundreds of these prepared and late 1990s, when she prepared a few frozen, in advance of the cocktail hundred for my father-in-law's 50th party they hosted as part of the

weekend festivities.

tion and the family enjoyed it with such fond memories of Grandma and her wonderful repertoire of recipes!

She used to cut rounds from slices of white and whole wheat bread as the base, but with all of the wonderful local bakeries, we now make it "crostini" style with slices of freshly-baked baguette.

Photo Susie Iventosch

We recently served it for my fa-

I hope you enjoy this special treat as much as we have over the years! It is also great served alongside pasta in lieu of bread and but-





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Blue Cheese-Olive Crostini

(each recipe makes about 16 crostini)

INGREDIENTS

- 1/2 baguette, sliced into 1/4-inch slices
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 1/2 cup finely chopped Manzanilla olives, stuffed with pimientos
- 1/2 cup crumbled blue cheese
- 1-2 tablespoons yogurt-based blue cheese dressing (bottled)

DIRECTIONS

Preheat oven to 400 degrees.

Place baguette slices on baking sheet. Mix olive oil with black pepper and brush on tops of baguette slices.

Bake bread for 5-7 minutes, until slightly crunchy on edges, but still soft in the middle. Remove from oven and set aside.

In a bowl, mix olives, blue cheese and dressing. Spread on tops of toasts. Bake again at 400 degrees, for approximately 10 minutes, or until cheese is bubbly and beginning to brown.

Serve hot!

Susie Iventosch is the author of Tax Bites and Tasty Morsels, which can be found at Across the Way in Moraga, www.amazon.com, and www.taxbites.net. Susie can be reached at suziventosch@gmail.com.

This recipe can be found on our website: ww.lamorindaweekly.com. If you would like to share your favorite recipe with Susie please contact her by email or call our office at (925) 377-0977.



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