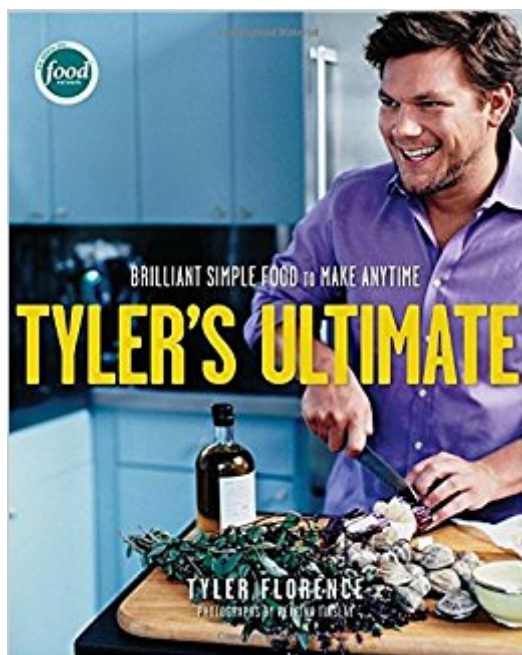


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Tyler's Ultimate: Brilliant Simple Food To Make Any Time



Synopsis

As his millions of fans know from watching him on Food Network, Tyler likes to rock the kitchen with big, bold flavors and sophisticated yet accessible fare. Whether you're dishing up a family favorite like spaghetti and meatballs or pulling out all the stops with a succulent tenderloin steak topped with spicy crab salad, Tyler Florence believes every meal can "and should" be the ultimate dining experience. At last, in Tyler's Ultimate, he shows us how to get these spectacular results in much less time. Tyler believes the ultimate meal brings together good food, good friends, and good times "with Tyler's Ultimate as your guide you can elevate any gathering to a cause for celebration and every family meal to an occasion worth savoring. In his travels around the world for his Food Network show, he's sampled countless versions of classic dishes, taking an ideal technique from one, a perfect ingredient from another. Here he gives you the best of the best. Make no mistake: Tyler's approach here may be simplified and the ingredients list streamlined, but your palate will never feel compromised. These recipes are packed with zesty flavors, yet easy to pull together and always straightforward enough for even novice cooks. Because Tyler believes that the little details separate a good meal from a "wow!" experience, his recipes feature bright, exciting flavors that sing on the tongue yet don't require fancy equipment or exotic ingredients. Tyler has collected all his most trusted and best-loved recipes for the ultimate collection of go-to meals, including can't-miss versions of the dishes we all crave most: the ultimate burger, French onion soup, beef stew, macaroni and cheese, and chocolate mousse, plus exciting new discoveries that will find a permanent home in your cooking repertoire. Filled with recipes for sensational, all-American food, Tyler's Ultimate is the all-around, everyday great cookbook his fans have been waiting for.

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Customer Reviews

TV chef Tyler Florence brings a direct, regular-guy charm to cooking that is equally straightforward, simple and good. In Tyler's Ultimate, he offers 100-plus recipes for just this kind of food's-"ultimate" versions of dishes like onion soup, crab cakes and spaghetti carbonara, as well as more innovative fare like Chicken Paillard with Fresh Fig Salad and Blue Cheese, Grilled Leg of Lamb with Lemon Chickpea Puree and Greens, and Coconut Shrimp with Basmati Rice, Apricots, and Lime. His desserts, all tempting, include the likes of Chocolate Banana Bread, and Almond Semifreddo with Spiced Honey Dried Fruit. Many of the dishes in this concise collection reflect a thoughtful winnowing of ingredients and technique to produce food that is not only delicious, but can be prepared on a regular basis. Some of Florence's inventions'-like Watermelon Gazpacho with Chile and Feta Cheese, which is entirely accomplished in a blender-are ingenious. Photo-illustrated throughout, "Ultimate" is for cooks who want their kitchen work to be as easy as possible, but who also require good cooking'-dishes that capture fully their flavor potential. --Arthur Boehm

Were this book not to share a name with Florence's Food Network show, its existence would be a puzzle. As it is, it's hard to make heads or tails of this jumble of decent but not spectacular recipes that share only one thing in common: a forced "guy talk" manner. Chapters are arranged by type of dish, with titles like "Surf" for fish, and each opens with a throw-away introduction of a couple of paragraphs: "noodles are a great way to put a smile on somebody's face." Recipes are equally casual: once you've started the sauce for Coconut Shrimp with Basmati Rice and Apricots, you're told to "jump to the rice," and in the headnote to Angry Lobster with Tomato-Chile Butter and Arugula, Florence reminisces about working "at a mafia joint in Tribeca" patronized by men "from Jersey with pinky rings... and girls decked out in big hair and gold." Despite this sometimes off-key tone, instructions are clear, and each recipe helpfully comes with an estimated cooking time, most of them quick. Still, one can't help wishing that despite offering truly helpful advice (such as the tip not to shake the pan when making Oven Fries for crispier results), Florence would, in his own parlance, tune down the 'tude, dude. (Nov.) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Tyler's Ultimate offers up some great recipes to tantalize your palate and stretch your appreciation for great combinations of all things fresh, simple and wholesome. Hubby fell in love with Tyler's show on Food Network a while back, and espoused, ad nauseam, how simple and delicious all his dishes looked, so he finally decided to bite the bullet and order this book for (ahem) himself to try (himself, of course, meaning the Mrs.). What hubby doesn't realize is that Tyler throws all these dishes together so easily because someone else has done all the prep for him (and the clean-up!). While most are fairly uncomplicated, don't expect to throw them together in the time a half-hour TV show host does. Most of these dishes *are* fairly simple to put together, and the instructions are clear, but they are time consuming almost all of the time being in the prep work. When you are working with all fresh ingredients, it takes time to get them ready. However, it's worth it. So many of these concoctions are to-die-for. Some of my favorites are the French onion soup, mussels with white wine, thyme, garlic and lemon (so simple!) and their accompanying herbed garlic bread, scallop saltimbocca, mouth-watering pot roast with velvet potato puree, sausage with brown sugar/thyme caramelized apples, roast chicken Provencal, the ultimate berry trifle (hubby contributes his made-from-scratch pound cake to this "he's the baker in the family" but Tyler says store-bought is fine), and vanilla pots de crème (his version of crème brûlée sans blow torch). I have made close to half the recipes found here so far, and am eagerly awaiting the warmer weather to try some of the grilling recipes, salads and cold dishes. However, keep in mind that you may need to be willing to buy some specialized cooking equipment and cookware. While most people (or maybe not) have a Dutch oven, you'll need a food mill to have the velvet potatoes come out right. (I don't have the money to invest in one, but if you decrease the amount of heavy cream and simply whip them with a hand-held egg beater, your potatoes will still be more delicious than any other version of mashed potatoes you've ever had. It's the consistency of the potatoes the food mill produces that allows all that cream to be soaked up by the starch.) You'll also need a heavy-duty blender or food processor for some of the dishes, too, and the correct skillet, oven-going crockery, the right-sized roasting pan, 8 ounce ramekins etc. Although I wouldn't say this cookbook is quite for the absolute beginner, Tyler does have videos online of himself making these dishes, so you can check those out to see what it is you're going for. It's helpful to see it all coming together and what the finished result should look like so you know you're on the right track. While there is, of course, some weird chef-y type stuff that I may or may not try (and I just can't get into a minestrone

that's chicken broth-based), if you've mastered your Better Homes Cookbook (a great cookbook for the absolute beginner) and you're ready to stretch your talent, this book is for you. However, keep in mind that many of these recipes are time consuming, so it's probably not realistic for a busy Mom or Dad who has been working all day and/or shuttling kids around and just doesn't have the time and energy to spend on them at the end of a busy day. Also, a lot of them don't create huge portions, so may not be realistic if you have a large family to feed. But if you've got the time and inclination | bon appétit " you'll enjoy.

Every time I make something new and I google a recipe, I always choose Tyler's. I have no clue why. I have never even seen his TV show. Everything I have made from google though has been good so I bought this book. I haven't cooked anything but everything seems "doable" . Nothing too crazy or fancy like some other cookbooks I have. Of course he tells a story and explains stories behind the recipes. There are quite a few pictures which I like. I like to see if what I am going to be cooking is pretty or to get ideas on how to plate the food, what to serve it with, etc.

Gift for my friend, loves it so much

Bought as a gift for my husband, who happens to be my favorite chef. He has made several recipes from the book and we have loved each one! If you like Tyler's fresh, clean and tasty dishes then this is a great book to own.

I rarely write reviews, but while shopping for another Tyler Florence cookbook, thought I should. My husband and I have had this cookbook for at least 6 years now. With most cookbooks, you get a few recipes out of it, but they end up collecting dust on a shelf as you move onto newer and more exciting books. We consistently go back to this book over and over! It's become one of our favorites, as everything we make from it are fabulous, solid, crowd-pleasers.

This book is good, simply due to a handful of perfect and delicious recipes. We love TF, and truly enjoy his cooking style. However, if you're looking for a book that showcases what he made on the Tyler's Ultimate FN show, this isn't it. I recognized a few, but it's not really a match-up to the show, unfortunately. It's still a solid cook book.

Great recipes that work. It makes me look like a chef. I use it all the time.

Tyler Florence is an amazing chef and I love his use of "fresh and seasonal whatever you can get your hands on at the moment" approach to food selection and simple yet masterful preparation to bring out the very best of the ingredients used.

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