Simply Fabulous Spring Appetizer:

Asparagus Gruyere Tart

Recipe Courtesy of Martha Stewart's Blog Tested by Casey McGuire

Looking for a simply fabulous spring appetizer to serve at your Easter brunch or Kentucky Derby Party? This month's dish when made with plump, in-season asparagus, makes for a sophisticated, visually pleasing appetizer. Store-bought puff pastry is a great short cut, and Fontina cheese can substitute for Gruyere.



Ingredients:

- Flour, for work surface
- 1 sheet frozen puff pastry
- 5 1/2 ounces (2 cups) Gruyere cheese, shredded
- 1 1/2 pounds medium or thick asparagus
- Asparagus Green
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- Salt and pepper

Directions:

- 1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees. On a floured surface, roll the puff pastry into a 16-by-10-inch rectangle. Trim uneven edges. Place pastry on a baking sheet. With a sharp knife, lightly score pastry dough 1 inch in from the edges to mark a rectangle. Using a fork, pierce dough inside the markings at 1/2-inch intervals. Bake until golden, about 15 minutes.
- 2. Remove pastry shell from oven, and sprinkle with Gruyere. Trim the bottoms of the asparagus spears to fit crosswise inside the tart shell; arrange in a single layer over Gruyere, alternating ends and tips. Brush with oil, and season with salt and pepper. Bake until spears are tender, 20 to 25 minutes.

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