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Simple Thai Food: Classic Recipes From The Thai Home Kitchen



Synopsis

Thai takeout meets authentic, regional flavors in this collection of 100 recipes for easy, economical, and accessible Thai classics--from the rising star behind the blog *She Simmers*. Who can say no to a delicious plate of Pad Thai with Shrimp; a fresh, tangy Green Papaya Salad; golden Fried Spring Rolls; or a rich, savory Pork Toast with Cucumber Relish? Thai food is not only one of the most vibrant, wonderfully varied cuisines in the world, it also happens to be one of the tastiest, and a favorite among American eaters. The good news is, with the right ingredients and a few basic tools and techniques, authentic Thai food is easily within reach of home cooks. Take it from Leela Punyaratabandhu, a Bangkok native and author of the popular Thai cooking blog *She Simmers*. In her much-anticipated debut cookbook, Leela shares her favorite recipes for classic Thai fare, including beloved family recipes, popular street food specialties, and iconic dishes from Thai restaurant menus around the world. All of Leela's recipes have been tested and tweaked to ensure that even the busiest cook can prepare them at home. With chapters on key ingredients and tools, base recipes, one-plate meals, classic rice accompaniments, and even Thai sweets, *Simple Thai Food* is a complete primer for anyone who wants to give Thai cooking a try. By the end of the book, you'll be whipping up tom yam soup and duck red curry that will put your local takeout joint to shame. But perhaps more importantly, you'll discover an exciting new world of Thai flavors and dishes—including Stir-Fried Chicken with Chile Jam, Leaf-Wrapped Salad Bites, and Crispy Wings with Three-Flavored Sauce—that will open your eyes to all the wonderful possibilities that real Thai cooking has to offer.

Book Information

Hardcover: 236 pages

Publisher: Ten Speed Press (May 13, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1607745232

ISBN-13: 978-1607745235

Product Dimensions: 7.7 x 0.9 x 9.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.8 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (91 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #39,310 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #4 in [Books > Cookbooks, Food & Wine > Asian Cooking > Thai](#) #24 in [Books > Travel > Asia > Southeast](#) #234 in [Books > Cookbooks, Food & Wine > Cooking Methods > Quick & Easy](#)

Customer Reviews

If you like her blog, you will love this cookbook! But be aware, "simple" does not mean quick. And, "simple" does not necessarily mean suitable for week night cooking. And, "simple" does not mean few ingredients, either. I gave serious thought to my star-rating for this book. (Well, I always give my review ratings serious thought, but this one seemed to be a tougher decision.) Four stars just does not do justice to this book, but it's not a perfect five-star book either....I hope you all don't mind that I've decided on a 4.5 rating, and on 's scale, I've rounded it up. I don't consider it a cop-out: No. I have trouble with the word "Simple" in the title, but there is SO MUCH worthy in this book that it's better than a four-star. Having some knowledge of Thai foods and having looked at Leela's blog, I should have known that "Simple" Thai Food was a misnomer--at least for me. While I have access to Thai ingredients by way of a home garden and a weekly trip up to the big city, I don't always have access to beautiful fresh fish. And I did not grow up in house where wok cooking and deep frying were everyday occurrences. I guess I'm saying that "unfamiliar" is rarely "simple", and what is "familiar" is always "simpler. I have no trouble following her instructions or finding the ingredients, but the recipes are a learning experience for me, therefore, they take more time than I am willing to spend for a week night meal. Ms. Punyaratabandhu strives to be authentic, and that is very admirable. Some people will purchase this book because they can trust the authenticity of its recipes, and because the dishes remind them of their heritage.

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