

Cranberry-Zinfandel Punch



Ingredients

1/2 cup water

1/2 cup sugar

1/2 cup + 5 Tbsp. and 1 tsp. fresh lime juice

One 64-oz. bottle cranberry-juice cocktail, chilled

One 750-ml bottle red Zinfandel wine, chilled

1 cup fresh cranberries

One 1-liter bottle seltzer water, chilled

2 limes, sliced and chilled

Directions

Make homemade sweetened lime juice by combining water and sugar in a saucepan over medium heat. Stir until sugar is dissolved; bring to a boil and continue cooking until the mixture begins to thicken slightly. Remove from heat and let cool. Add lime juice and refrigerate until cold.

In a large pitcher, mix cranberry-juice cocktail, Zinfandel, and 1/3 cup of the chilled sweetened lime juice, set aside. Put fresh cranberries into a jar, fill with punch, and cover with a tight-fitting lid. Refrigerate everything for one hour or until cold. When ready, transfer cocktail mixture into a punch bowl, stir in seltzer water, and garnish with lime slices. To add a more festive flair, insert some of the soaked cranberries onto a party pick and place across each glass (pictured) before serving.