

Slow-Roasted Tomato Mayonnaise

Yield

About 11/2 cups

Time

About 31/2 hours start to finish, but about 30 minutes active time

Cooking Remarks

Slow-roasted plum tomatoes have uses far exceeding a purée for mayonnaise. They're great on an antipasto platter, mixed into a farro salad, or tucked into a split baguette with fresh mozzarella and speck. In this recipe, we roast enough tomatoes for the mayonnaise plus a future application. They are stalwart enough to hold for a couple of weeks in the refrigerator.

Don't bother making this mayonnaise except with dark red, perfectly ripe plum tomatoes.

Equipment Mise en Place

For this recipe, you will need a wire rack, a rimmed baking sheet, a large bowl, a liquid measuring cup, a food processor, and a silicone spatula.

Ingredients

for the slow-roasted tomatoes

- 2 pounds ripe plum tomatoes
- 3 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
- 4 teaspoons balsamic vinegar
- 3/4 teaspoon fine sea salt
- ½ teaspoon ground black pepper
- 4 medium garlic cloves, minced

for the mayonnaise

1/2 cup good-tasting neutral oil, such as avocado oil

1/4 cup extra-virgin olive oil

1 large egg yolk

1/2 teaspoon fine sea salt

1/4 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper

Scant ½ teaspoon smoked paprika

0.5 ounce Parmesan Reggiano, finely grated on a rasp-style grater

Directions

1. *Slow-roast the tomatoes:* Adjust an oven rack to the lower-middle position and heat the oven to 275 degrees. Set a wire rack in a rimmed baking sheet.

- **2.** Core the tomatoes. If they're small to medium in size, cut the tomatoes in half lengthwise. If they're large, cut them into thirds. Using your fingers, dig out the seeds.
- **3.** In a large bowl, stir together the oil, balsamic, salt, pepper, and garlic. Add the tomatoes and toss until they are completely coated. Arrange the tomatoes cut side up on the prepared rack, spacing them evenly. Drizzle the oil mixture remaining in the bowl onto the tomatoes, then roast until the tomatoes are shriveled, darkened in color, and lightly caramelized around the edges, about 3 hours. Remove from the oven and let cool.
- **4.** *Make the mayonnaise:* In a liquid measuring cup, combine the neutral oil and olive oil. Weigh out 4 ounces of the roasted tomatoes and turn them into the bowl of a food processor along with the egg yolk, salt, pepper, and smoked paprika; reserve the remaining tomatoes for another use. Process until well combined and the tomatoes have formed a thick puree, about 15 seconds. Scrape down the bowl with a silicone spatula. With the machine running, begin adding the oil in a series of droplets, never more than a thread-fine stream, through the feed tube. After about half the oil has been added and if the emulsion has formed (check by stopping the food processor and opening the lid—there may be a few small pools of oil that can be stirred in with the spatula but otherwise the mixture should be creamy and slightly thick), gradually increase the rate at which you stream in the oil, but keep it slow and fine. Make sure that the food processor is not overheating, which can cause the mayonnaise to break.
- **5.** After all of the oil has been added, toss in the Parmesan and process until smooth, about 20 seconds. Transfer to an airtight container and refrigerate until ready to use, or for up to 1 week.