

BÉARNAISE SAUCE

MAKES ABOUT 1 CUP Béarnaise and steak are a match made in heaven, but this sauce has a few other divine uses. Try it spooned over poached eggs or spread over roast fish.

- 1 Tbsp. plus 1 cup (2 sticks) unsalted butter, cut into $\frac{1}{2}$ " cubes
- 3 Tbsp. minced shallots
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 2 Tbsp. Champagne vinegar or white wine vinegar
- 2 large egg yolks
- 1 Tbsp. (or more) fresh lemon juice
- 1 Tbsp. finely chopped fresh tarragon

Melt 1 Tbsp. butter in a small saucepan over medium heat. Add shallots and a pinch of salt and pepper; stir to coat. Stir in vinegar, reduce heat to medium-low, and cook until vinegar is evaporated, 3–4 minutes. Reduce heat to low and continue cooking shallots, stirring frequently, until tender and translucent, about 5 minutes longer. Transfer shallot reduction to a small bowl and let cool completely.

Meanwhile, fill a blender with hot water to warm it; set aside. Melt remaining 1 cup butter in a small saucepan over medium heat until butter is foamy. Transfer butter to a measuring cup.

Drain blender and dry well. Combine egg yolks, lemon juice, and 1 Tbsp. water in warm, dry blender. Purée mixture until smooth. Remove lid insert. With blender running, slowly pour in hot butter in a thin stream of droplets, discarding milk solids at bottom of measuring cup. Continue blending until a smooth, creamy sauce forms, 2–3 minutes. Pour sauce into a medium bowl. Stir in shallot reduction and tarragon and season to taste with salt, pepper, and more lemon juice, if desired.

DO AHEAD: Can be made 1 hour ahead. Cover and let stand at room temperature.