

an you get a jump on your 2013 weightloss resolution while your fridge is still full of holiday leftovers? "Yes, you can!" proclaims Los Angeles nutritionist Christine Avanti, author of Skinny Chicks Eat Real Food. Her secret: "Grab ingredients you need to use up anyway-things like turkey, roast beef, veggies, potatoes, fresh herbs-and whip up a powerful weight-loss soup!" Avanti's special recipe, bottom right, makes it a cinch. "Soup is comfort

food-warm, filling, delicious. It's really a perfect choice to help you transition from holiday eating to healthy eating. You'll feel indulged and satisfiedyet, at the same time, you basically trick your body into slimming down." And if you're someone who has tried a soup crash in the past, you can expect much better results this time around . . .



## "Soup-er" results!

"I couldn't stomach cabbage soup for more than a few days," says Texas grandma Barbara Hall, 71, part of a reader team who tested the plan on these pages. "With this new recipe, each batch is a little different, so you don't get bored. And it really is delicious!" Barbara shrunk by a full pants size in seven days. Meanwhile, Wisconsin mom Jill Schneider, 45, not only lost a pound a day, she says she can't get over how economical the diet was. "For once, I ate healthy and nothing spoiled in my fridge!" And then there's Arizona mom Jessica Barr, 31. She loved that she could whip up the soup in just 30 minutes and have lunch and dinner for an entire week. "I did this diet practically on autopilot." It was the easiest 10 pounds she's ever lost!

## Which soup ingredients boost health and weight loss most? Christine Avanti, C.N., Try these "soup-er" foods! recommends simmering up any (or all!) of the following .

## Yummy soup Okra Mushrooms Artichokes ingredient "They contain some Okra's high fiber Artichokes contain inulin, surprising nutrients content can slow the like selenium, vitamin digestion of carbs a natural com-How it slims D and vitamin B. and reduce fattening pound that's been

Growing research suggests that mushrooms have anti-tumor and anti-viral properties!

which help the body

burn calories."

How it boosts

health

According to Avanti, compounds in okra "move through the digestive system collecting cholesterol as they go."

blood-sugar spikes

after a meal

shown to decrease hunger hormones. Preliminary studies show that an artichoke antioxidant called silymarin may help prevent skin

Kale is another cholesterol fighter. And eating leafy greens regularly has been shown to fight diabetes.

Kale

A compound

found in kale is

proven to help

build metabo-

lism-boosting

muscle.

## Cayenne pepper

Researchers say this hot spice can boost metabolism by up to 20%!

Heat-generating cayenne compounds help soothe blood vessels, lowering blood pressure.

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cancer.