

Warm Brussels Sprouts Salad with Bacon and Hazelnuts (rewritten from Serious Eats)

The original recipe calls for crushing the nuts under a skillet, which I thought was an odd method to call for until I tried using a knife and ended up chasing hazelnuts rolling all over the cutting board and counter. Crushing doesn't turn them into powder or paste, it just breaks them into smaller pieces.

I prefer using a nonstick skillet for this. A regular skillet works, but you'll end up leaving lots of flavorful brown bits behind in the pan.

Serves 2

- 3 ounces bacon (2-3 slices, depending on thickness)
- 1 small shallot, minced (about 2 tablespoons)
- 1 tablespoon honey
- 1 tablespoon sherry (or red wine) vinegar
- 1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil

Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper

- 12 ounces Brussels sprouts, halved through the stem and then sliced crosswise
- ½ cup hazelnuts, toasted, roughly chopped or crushed with a skillet
- 1. Place the bacon in a medium nonstick skillet over medium heat; cover and cook until it's browned and crisp, turning occasionally, about 8 minutes. While the bacon cooks, add the shallot, honey, sherry vinegar, oil, ¼ teaspoon salt, and pinch of black pepper to a large bowl. Transfer the cooked bacon to a paper towel-lined plate. Pour 1 tablespoon of bacon fat into the bowl with the dressing ingredients. Leave approximately ½ tablespoon of bacon fat in the skillet; discard the remaining fat. Crumble or coarsely chop the bacon.
- 2. Heat the skillet with the bacon fat over high heat. Add the Brussels sprouts and cook, stirring constantly, until bright green and slightly wilted, about 2 minutes. Transfer to the bowl with the dressing. Toss the Brussels sprouts with the dressing; top with bacon and hazelnuts. Serve immediately.