



CHINA HERB COMPANY

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PREPARING HERBS:

STOVETOP METHOD

MATERIALS:

- An enamel, glass, or stainless steel pot. Avoid iron, aluminum, and copper cookware.
- A glass bottle that can store at least seven cups of liquid. Or you can use two smaller ones. Make sure to mix the herbs, so that each bottle is the same strength
- A wooden spoon
- a wire-mesh strainer
- a funnel will also be helpful.

HERBS: You've received a bag of herbs in a brown paper bag. You might also find herbs separate little bags of herbs marked with the following labels:

- **Cook for one hour before adding other ingredients:** This means there's shells or minerals in your formula. These need to cook longer to get the medicine out. Put these herbs in a pot with 6-7 cups of water and simmer covered for an hour. You can then move to step 1, adding more water since some has evaporated.
- **Add in the last 10 minutes of the first simmer:** This means your formula contains delicate or fragrant herbs that should only cook for a short time.
- **Melt into the strained decoction:** If you find this, it means your formula contains a kind of gelatin. After you've cooked and strained your herbs, add the contents of this bag and stir until melted.

COOKING:

- **FIRST SIMMER:** Put the entire bag of herbs into a soup pot. Cover with just enough warm water to cover the herbs by a couple of inches. Let them soak for ten minutes. Turn on the heat and bring them to a gentle simmer. Cover, reduce heat and simmer for forty-five minutes. Strain the tea into the bottle, and return the herbs to the pot.
- **SECOND SIMMER:** Add just enough water barely to cover the herbs in the pot. Simmer, covered for 15 minutes. Strain the tea into the bottle, and return herbs

to the pot.

- **THIRD SIMMER:** If you've already yielded at least 7 cups of herb tea, you can opt to skip this final step. If not, proceed by Adding two cups of water to the pot, and simmer for five minutes. Stir the herbs with a wooden spoon. Most of the medicine has already been extracted from your tea. This last step is to "wash" out any remaining medicinal value form the herbs. Strain the tea into the bottle, and discard the herbs. You should now have approximately seven cups of tea. Store in the refrigerator.

DOSAGE: Take one-half cup (four fluid ounces) of tea in the morning, and another half-cup later in the day. It's best to take the tea on an empty stomach. Drink them room temperature or warm.

Some formulas taste better at room temperature, and others might be better warmed.

NOTES: You should yield approximately 7 cups of liquid, and the tea should last at least six or seven days. We don't recommend drinking the sediment that settles on the bottom. It's bad per se, but there's no value in it. You can opt to take a break for a day before making the next batch.

Some people feel noticeable improvement after only a few days, especially when there's an acute problem. Chronic conditions might take 2-3 weeks to notice improvements in your health.

Make sure to inform your practitioner about your response to the herbs. Herb Formulas are adaptable. We modify them based on your responses.