

# MACARONI & CHEESE HEATING & HOLDING INSTRUCTIONS

Mrs. Gerry's Gourmet Macaroni & Cheese and Premium Macaroni & Cheese is already cooked and just needs to be heated to 165 - 180°F before serving and maintained at this temperature. This can be accomplished by boiling them in a bag, heating them on a stove top, or in a microwave.

### **HEAT VIA BOIL IN A BAG:**

- Step 1: Fill a large stockpot 2/3 full with water
- Step 2: Bring the water to a boil
- Step 3: Gently place the bag of Mrs. Gerry's Macaroni & Cheese into the boiling water
- Step 4: Bring water back to a boil
- Step 5: The bag should stay in a low rolling boil for approximately 25 minutes
- Step 6: Poke a small hole in the bag and temp the Macaroni & Cheese before pulling it out
- Step 7: If the temperature is between 165 -180° F, it is done
- Step 8: Pull the bag out of the water with a tongs CAUTION: Contents and bag will be hot!
- Step 9: Take hold of the top of the bag with an oven mitt
- Step 10: Hold the bag over a half pan or the pan you are going to put the Macaroni & Cheese in
- Step 11: With a sharp knife or the Mrs. Gerry's Pouch-mate, cut off the entire bottom of the bag
- Step 12: Use the Mrs. Gerry's Pouch-mate to slide down the bag, which should make the Macaroni & Cheese fall into pan

## **HEAT VIA STOVE TOP:**

- Step 1: Remove contents from bag and place in a medium sauce pan
- Step 2: Heat slowly until warm (165 -180° F), stirring occasionally to prevent sticking

## **HEAT VIA MICROWAVE:**

- Step 1: Remove contents from bag and place in a clean microwaveable container
- Step 2: Cover product to maintain moisture
- Step 3: Microwave on HIGH for 8 minutes
- Step 4: Stir
- Step 5: Microwave on HIGH for an additional 6 minutes, or until heated completely (165 180° F)
- Step 6: Stir and serve

# **HOLDING PRODUCT IN A WARMING UNIT:**

- Heat the Macaroni & Cheese with one of the methods listed above before putting in the warming unit
- As the Macaroni & Cheese holds in the warming unit, the product may lose moisture
- If necessary, it is recommended that milk be stirred into the product to compensate for the lost moisture and maintain the desired consistency of the product
- Stirring occasionally gives more even heating and/or holding temperatures
- Do not over stir as this will cause the pasta to break
- Holding temperatures in the warming unit may also vary, but the product temperature should not go below 165° F
- Mrs. Gerry's Macaroni & Cheese can be held for a maximum of four hours in a warming unit
- We do not recommend freezing Mrs. Gerry's Macaroni & Cheese