



Ingredients:

- 1 teaspoon butter, or as needed
- 3 large russet potatoes, scrubbed
- ½ 1 shallot, minced
- ³/₄ 1 teaspoons kosher salt
- ½ teaspoon freshly ground white pepper
- 1 pinch cayenne pepper, or to taste
- 2 ½ cups grated sharp white Cheddar cheese
- 1 ³/₄ cups sour cream

Method:

- 1. Preheat the oven to 400F.
- 2. Wrap each potato in foil and place on a baking sheet. Poke holes into potatoes using a knife.
- 3. Bake in the preheated oven until very tender and easily pierced with a knife, about 1 hour and 15 minutes.
- 4. Let potatoes cool to room temperature, at least 20 minutes. Unwrap and cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate until completely chilled.
- 5. Preheat the oven to 425F, and butter a casserole dish.
- 6. Using a box grater or food processor, grate the cooled baked potatoes with the skin still on.
- 7. Add shallots to the potatoes, and season with salt, white pepper, and cayenne.
- 8. Toss with two forks until well combined. Add Cheddar cheese and mix well. Gently toss in sour cream until barely combined.
- 9. Transfer mixture into the prepared baking dish, piling it up high, and then patting it down very lightly.
- 10. Bake in the preheated oven until piping hot and top is browned, 30 to 35 minutes.

Chef's Notes:

- Use black pepper instead of white if needed.
- If you do use shallots, note that a little will go a long way because they go in raw.
- Feel free to sauté them in a little butter to take off the sharp, raw edge. Besides shallots, some thinly sliced green onions would be great, as would sautéed leeks, or even just finely minced yellow onions.