## Japchae (Korean stir-fried starch noodles)

Ingredients

6 ounces 170 grams Korean potato starch noodles (dangmyeon, 당면)

1 small carrot

1 small sweet onion

2 scallions

1/2 Pepper

4 - 5 shiitake mushrooms

6 ounces 170 grams fresh spinach

vegetable oil for stir frying

salt and pepper

<u>Sauce</u>

4 tablespoons soy sauce

2 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> tablespoons sugar

 $2\frac{1}{2}$  tablespoons sesame oil

2 tablespoons minced garlic

2 teaspoons roasted sesame seeds-garnish

## Instructions:

- 1. Combine all sauce ingredients in a small bowl and mix well until the sugar is dissolved.
- 2. Cut the carrot/Pepper into match-sticks. Thinly slice the onion. Cut the scallions into similar lengths.
- 3. Cut the stems off the mushrooms, and slice into 1/4-inch thin strips. Season with 1 tablespoon of the sauce.
- 4. Blanch the spinach in boiling water only until wilted. Drain quickly and shock in cold water. Squeeze out excess water, cut into about 2-inch lengths, and lightly season with salt and pepper.
- 5. Bring a pot of water to a boil, and cook the noodles according to the package directions (usually 6 - 7 minutes). Rinse in cold water and drain. Cut the noodles with kitchen shears or a knife into 6 -7 inch lengths. Mix in 2-3 tablespoons of the prepared sauce in a large bowl.
- 6. In a large non-stick skillet, stir fry the noodles over medium heat, stirring frequently, until translucent and a bit sticky (about 4 minutes). Transfer back to the bowl.
- 7. Add 1/2 tablespoon of oil to the pan, and stir fry the onion/pepper until translucent over medium high heat, lightly sprinkling with salt and pepper. When the onion is almost done, stir-in the scallion and cook briefly. Transfer to the bowl with the noodles. Stir fry the carrot for 2 to 3 minutes until softened. Transfer to the bowl.
- 8. Stir fry the mushrooms until cooked through, 3 4 minutes. Transfer to the bowl.
- 9. Add the spinach and the remaining sauce to the bowl with all other prepared ingredients.
- 10. Toss well by hand. Adjust the seasoning to taste by adding a little more (start with 1/2 teaspoon) soy sauce and/or sugar as necessary.