Crispy Italian Chicken

INGREDIENTS

- 1 cup Italian-seasoned panko breadcrumbs
- 4 (6-ounce) skinless, boneless chicken breast halves
- 1/3 cup avocado or olive oil based mayonnaise
- 2 tsp. olive oil
- 1 pint cherry tomatoes
- 1 tsp. salt and pepper
- 1 cup shredded Italian-blend cheese
- Torn fresh basil leaves (optional)

Side Dishes:

- Roasted zucchini
- Whole wheat penne pasta tossed in olive oil, lemon juice and parmesan cheese

DIRECTIONS

- 1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees
- 2. Meanwhile, pound chicken breast halves between two sheets of parchment or plastic wrap until they are evenly thick (this is worth the effort!). Spread mayonnaise all over each chicken breast half- I like using a brush. Dredge chicken, one piece at a time, in panko, pressing to adhere panko to mayonnaise.
- 3. Line a baking sheet with parchmenet paper. Arrange chicken on one side of baking sheet; put tomatoes on the other side. Drizzle tomatoes with 2 tsp. olive oil and season with 1 tsp. each salt and black pepper. Roast chicken for about 17 minutes or until chicken is 165 degrees.
- 4. Remove pan from oven; sprinkle chicken with cheese. Gently smash tomatoes. Return to oven and roast until cheese is melted, about 5 more minutes. Spoon tomatoes over chicken. Sprinkle basil over top, and enjoy!!

Ingredient