# 12 Crockpot Freezer Meals That Will Save You \$200 This Month

This Document Includes:

- Free printable recipes (pages 2-13)
- A full grocery list (pages 14-16)
- A calendar meal plan (page 17)

#### **Crockpot Recipe List**

- 1. Turkey Black Bean Chili
- 2. Zuppa Toscana with Sweet Potatoes
- 3. Beef Barley Stew
- 4. Meatball Minestrone
- 5. Chicken Tikka Masala
- 6. Easy Chicken Cacciatore
- 7. Chicken Philly Cheesesteaks
- 8. Apricot-Ginger Chicken
- 9. Homemade Mississippi Roast
- 10. Mexican Pot Roast
- 11. Cranberry Pork Roast
- 12. Shredded Lime Pork Tacos

## 1. Turkey Black Bean Chili

Yields: 6 servings

## Ingredients

- 1 pound of ground turkey
- 28oz can of tomato sauce
- 2 cans of black beans (15oz each), drained and rinsed
- 1 can of petite diced tomatoes (14.5oz), undrained
- 1 2/3 cup frozen corn (half of a 1lb bag)
- 2 large cloves of garlic, minced
- 1 tablespoon paprika
- 1 tablespoon chili powder
- 2 teaspoons ground cumin
- 1 1/2 teaspoon ground oregano
- 1/4 teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes

#### Materials

• 1 gallon-sized plastic freezer bag

### To Freeze and Cook Later

- 1. To a gallon-sized plastic freezer bag, add all ingredients.
- 2. Remove as much air as possible, seal, and freeze.

#### To Cook

- 1. Thaw freezer bag overnight in refrigerator or in water in the morning.
- 2. Pour contents of freezer bag into your crockpot.
- 3. Cook for 8 hours on "low" setting for 6-8 hours.
- 4. Break apart turkey and stir.

Serve with shredded cheese and chips.

# 2. Zuppa Toscana with Sweet Potatoes

Yields: 6 servings

#### Ingredients

- 1 pound ground spicy sausage
- 3 sweet potatoes (about 1 ½ pounds), washed and sliced (no need to peel)
- 1 bunch of kale, washed and chopped
- 1.5 teaspoons fennel seeds
- 1.5 teaspoons paprika
- 1 teaspoon black pepper
- 1 teaspoon onion powder
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- 8 cups chicken broth (not needed until day of cooking)
- 1 cup heavy cream (or half and half) (not needed until day of cooking)

#### **Materials**

• 1 gallon-sized plastic freezer bag

#### To Freeze and Cook Later

- 1. To a gallon-sized plastic freezer bag, add all ingredients (except chicken broth and heavy cream. You can freeze the cream in a separate bag or wait to buy it until you're ready to cook the soup).
- 2. Remove as much air as possible, seal, and freeze.

## To Cook

- 1. Thaw freezer bag overnight in refrigerator or in water in the morning.
- 2. Pour contents of freezer bag into your crockpot and add 8 cups of chicken broth.
- 3. Cook for 8 hours on "low" setting or until sausage is cooked through.
- 4. Break apart sausage and add heavy cream. Stir to heat through.

Serve with fresh bread.

## 3. Beef Barley Stew

### Recipe modified from Live Simply

Yields: 6 servings

### Ingredients

- 2lb beef chuck roast, fat-trimmed and cut into bite-sized pieces
- 4 carrots (about 1/2 pound), peeled and chopped
- 2 celery ribs, chopped
- 1 small yellow onion, chopped (one cup)
- 2 teaspoons dried thyme
- 1 teaspoon dried rosemary
- 1 bay leaf
- <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper
- <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> cup uncooked medium barley (not quick cooking)
- 8 cups beef broth (not needed until day of cooking)

#### **Materials**

• 1 gallon-sized plastic freezer bag

#### To Freeze and Cook Later

- 1. Label your freezer bag with the name of the recipe, cooking instructions, and "use-by" date.
- 2. Add all ingredients to your freezer bag (except beef broth).
- 3. Remove as much air as possible, seal, and freeze.

### To Cook

- 1. Thaw freezer bag overnight in refrigerator or in water in the morning.
- 2. Pour contents of freezer bag into your crockpot and add beef broth.
- 3. Cook on "low" setting for 8 hours or until carrots are soft.
- 4. Remove the bay leaf and enjoy!

Serve with fresh bread.

## 4. Meatball Minestrone

Yields: 6 servings

### Ingredients

- 1 pound frozen meatballs
- 28oz can of diced tomatoes, undrained
- 1/2 pound of carrots (about 4 large carrots), peeled and sliced
- 3 cups of fresh green beans (about 1 pound), ends cut off and chopped
- 1oz fresh baby spinach (about 1 handful or 1 cup)
- 1 small onion, peeled and chopped (1 cup)
- 4 cloves of garlic, minced
- 15oz can of kidney beans, drained and rinsed
- 15oz can of cannellini beans, drained and rinsed
- 1 teaspoon honey
- 2 tablespoons Italian seasonings
- 1 bay leaf
- 1/4 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 8 cups low-sodium chicken broth \*not needed until day of cooking

## Materials

• 1 gallon-sized plastic freezer bag

## To Freeze and Cook Later

- **1.** Label your freezer bag with the name of the recipe, cooking instructions, and "use-by date" (which should be 3 months from the prep day).
- 2. To your freezer bag, add all ingredients except broth.
- **3.** Remove as much air as possible, seal, and freeze.

## To Cook

- **1.** Thaw overnight in refrigerator or in water.
- 2. Add to crockpot with chicken broth.
- **3.** Cook on "low" setting for 8 hours.
- **4.** Remove bay leaf.

Serve with garlic bread.

## 5. Chicken Tikka Masala

Yields: 6 servings

### Ingredients

- 2 pounds boneless skinless chicken breasts, cut into bite-sized pieces
- Two 15oz cans of tomato sauce
- 2 cloves of garlic, minced
- 2 tablespoons honey
- 2 tablespoons curry powder
- 1 teaspoon crushed red pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon onion powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 8oz heavy cream (1 cup or 1/2 pint)

### **Materials**

• 1 gallon-sized plastic freezer bag

### To Freeze and Cook Later

- 1. Label your freezer bag with the name of the recipe, cooking instructions, and "use-by" date.
- 2. To your freezer bag, add all ingredients.
- 3. Remove as much air as possible, seal, and freeze for up to three months.

#### To Cook

- 1. Thaw freezer bag overnight in refrigerator or in the morning in water.
- 2. Add contents of freezer bag to crockpot and cook on "low" setting for 4 hours in a 6-quart crockpot or 8 hours in a 4-quart crockpot.

Serve with rice.

## 6. Easy Chicken Cacciatore

Yield: 6 servings

#### Ingredients

- 1 pound boneless, skinless chicken breasts, sliced
- 24oz jar of spaghetti sauce
- 1 zucchini, chopped
- 1 green bell pepper, chopped
- 1 small yellow onion, chopped (one cup)

#### **Materials**

• 1 gallon-sized plastic freezer bag

#### To Freeze and Cook Later

- 1. Label your freezer bag with the name of the recipe, cooking instructions, and "use-by" date (which will be three months from the prep date).
- 2. Add all ingredients to your freezer bag.
- 3. Remove as much air as possible, seal, and freeze.

#### To Cook

- 1. Thaw freezer bag overnight in refrigerator or in water in the morning.
- 2. Pour contents of freezer bag into your crockpot.
- 3. Add contents of freezer bag to crockpot and cook on "low" setting for 4 hours in a 6-quart crockpot or 8 hours in a 4-quart crockpot.

Serve with spaghetti and salad.

## 7. Crockpot Chicken Philly Cheesesteak

Yields: 6 servings

### Ingredients

- 2 pounds boneless skinless chicken breasts, cut into strips
- 1 small yellow onion, sliced
- 1 green bell pepper, sliced
- 2 red bell peppers, sliced
- 1 tablespoon honey
- 1 tablespoon extra virgin olive oil
- 2 teaspoons apple cider vinegar
- 2 cloves of garlic, minced

## **Materials**

• 1 gallon-sized plastic freezer bag

## To Freeze and Cook Later

- 1. Label your freezer bag with the name of the recipe, cooking instructions, and "use-by" date.
- 2. To your freezer bag, add all ingredients except cheese.
- 3. Remove as much air as possible, seal, and freeze for up to three months.

## To Cook

- 1. Thaw freezer bag overnight in refrigerator or in the morning in water.
- 2. Add contents of freezer bag to crockpot and cook on "low" setting for 4 hours in a 6-quart crockpot or 8 hours in a 4-quart crockpot.

Serve on rolls topped with provolone cheese. Serve with a side of sweet potato fries.

## 8. Apricot-Ginger Chicken with Green Beans

Yields: 6 servings

#### Ingredients

- 2 pounds boneless, skinless chicken thighs
- 2/3 cup apricot jam
- 1 tablespoon low sodium soy sauce
- 1-inch fresh ginger root, peeled and grated (If you buy a large root, you can freeze whatever is leftover. I place the leftover root whole in my freezer.)
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 pound frozen green beans (You can sub fresh)

#### **Materials**

• 1 gallon-sized plastic freezer bag

#### To Freeze and Cook Later

- 1. Label your freezer bag with the name of the recipe, cooking instructions, and "use-by" date.
- 2. Add all ingredients to your freezer bag.
- 3. Remove as much air as possible, seal, and freeze.

#### To Cook

- 1. Thaw freezer bag overnight in refrigerator or in water in the morning.
- 2. Add contents of freezer bag to crockpot and cook on "low" setting for 4 hours in a 6-quart crockpot or 8 hours in a 4-quart crockpot.

Serve with rice.

## 9. Homemade Mississippi Roast

Yields: 6 servings

Ingredients

- 3lb boneless beef chuck shoulder roast
- 2lbs carrots, peeled and chopped
- 1 stick of unsalted butter
- 4-6 pepperoncini peppers plus a couple tablespoons of juice from the jar
- Au jus seasoning: 4tsp beef bouillon granules, 1tsp soy sauce, 1/4tsp garlic powder, and 1/4tsp pepper
- Ranch seasoning: 1T dried parsley, 1tsp garlic powder, 1tsp onion powder, 1tsp dried onion flakes, 3/4tsp dill, 1/2tsp pepper, 1/2 tsp salt (Traditional ranch seasoning packets also include dried buttermilk. Add 1T if you have some on-hand.)

#### **Materials**

• 1 gallon-sized plastic freezer bag

### To Freeze and Cook Later

- 1. Label your freezer bag with the name of the recipe, cooking instructions, and "use-by" date.
- 2. Add all ingredients to your freezer bag.
- 3. Remove as much air as possible, seal, and freeze.

### To Cook

- 1. Thaw freezer bag overnight in refrigerator or in water in the morning.
- 2. Pour contents of freezer bag into your crockpot.
- 3. Cook on "low" setting for 8 hours or until meat shreds easily with a fork.
- 4. Shred meat and return to slow cooker to mix with juice.

Serve with corn muffins.

### 10. Mexican Pot Roast

Yields: 6 servings

#### Ingredients

- 3-pound boneless beef chuck shoulder roast
- 2 pounds carrots, peeled and chopped into bite-sized pieces
- 3 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
- 2 tablespoons red wine vinegar
- 1 taco seasoning packet

#### **Materials**

• 1 gallon-sized plastic freezer bag

#### To Freeze and Cook Later

- 1. Label your freezer bag with the name of the recipe, cooking instructions, and "use-by" date (which will be three months from the prep date).
- 2. Add all ingredients to your freezer bag.
- 3. Remove as much air as possible, seal, and freeze.

#### To Cook

- 1. Thaw freezer bag overnight in refrigerator or in water in the morning.
- 2. Pour contents of freezer bag into your crockpot.
- 3. Cover and cook on "low" setting for 8 hours until beef shreds easily with a fork.

Serve with rice.

## 11. Cranberry Pork Roast

Yields: 6 servings

Ingredients

- 3 pound bone-in pork shoulder (sometimes labeled as a "Boston butt" or "pork butt")
- 15oz can whole berry cranberry sauce (or half of this <u>homemade cranberry</u> <u>sauce recipe</u>)
- 1/4 cup honey
- 1/4 cup dried minced onion

## **Materials**

• 1 gallon-sized plastic freezer bag

## To Freeze and Cook Later

- 1. Label your freezer bag with the name of the recipe, cooking instructions, and "use-by" date.
- 2. Add all ingredients to your freezer bag.
- 3. Remove as much air as possible, seal, and freeze.

### To Cook

- 1. Thaw freezer bag overnight in refrigerator or in water in the morning.
- 2. Pour contents of freezer bag into your crockpot.
- 3. Cook on "low" setting for 6-8 hours in a 6-quart crockpot or 8-10 hours in a 4quart crockpot (or until pork shreds easily with a fork).
- 4. Remove bones and shred meat.

Serve with leftover cranberry mixture, green beans, and stuffing.

## 12. Shredded Lime Pork Tacos

#### Yields: 6 servings

### Ingredients

- 3-lb bone-in pork shoulder roast (sometimes labeled as a "Boston butt" or "pork butt")
- The juice from two limes
- 1 tablespoon honey
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cayenne red pepper
- 1/4 teaspoon salt

## Materials

• 1 gallon-sized plastic freezer bag

## To Freeze and Cook Later

- 1. Label freezer bag.
- 2. To your freezer bag, add all ingredients.
- 3. Remove as much air from the freezer bag as possible, seal, and lay flat in your freezer.

# To Cook

- 1. The night before cooking, move frozen bag to your refrigerator to thaw.
- 2. The morning of cooking, pour contents of freezer bag into your crockpot and cook on "low" setting for 8 hours, or until pork is cooked through and falls off the bone.
- 3. Remove pork meat from the bone.
- 4. Shred and serve.

Serve on tortillas or rice with your favorite taco toppings.

# Grocery List for all 12 Crockpot Freezer Meals

(The number next to each ingredient corresponds to its recipe number.)

### Produce

- 13 cloves of garlic (1, 4, 5, 7, 8)
- 2 limes (12)
- 5 pounds carrots (3, 4, 9, 10)
- 4 yellow onions (3, 4, 6, 7)
- 1 zucchini (6)
- 2 green bell pepper (6, 7)
- 2 red bell peppers (7)
- 3 sweet potatoes (about 1 ½ pounds (2)
- 1 bunch of kale (2)
- 2 celery ribs (3)
- 3 cups (about 1 pound) of fresh green beans (4)
- 1oz fresh baby spinach (about 1 handful or 1 cup) (4)
- 1-inch fresh ginger root (8)

### Meat

- 1 pound of ground turkey (1)
- 1 pound ground spicy sausage (2)
- 5 pounds boneless skinless chicken breasts (5, 6, 7)
- 2 pounds boneless, skinless chicken thighs (8)
- One 2 pound beef chuck roast (3)
- Two 3 pound boneless beef chuck shoulder roasts (9, 10)
- Two 3 pound bone-in pork shoulder roast (sometimes labeled as a "Boston butt" or "pork butt") (11, 12)

## Freezer

- 1 2/3 cup frozen corn (half of a 1lb bag) (1)
- 1 pound frozen green beans (You can sub fresh) (8)
- 1 pound frozen meatballs (4)

# Cold/Dairy

- 1 stick of unsalted butter (9)
- 8oz heavy cream (1 cup or 1/2 pint) (5)

## Canned

- 24oz jar of spaghetti sauce (6)
- 28oz can of tomato sauce (1)
- Two 15oz cans of tomato sauce (5)
- 15oz can of kidney beans (4)
- 15oz can of cannellini beans (4)
- Two 15oz cans of black beans (1)
- 14.5oz can of petite diced tomatoes (1)
- 28oz can of diced tomatoes (4)
- 15oz can whole berry cranberry sauce (11)
- 2/3 cup apricot jam (8)
- 4-6 pepperoncini peppers (9)

#### Dried

• <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> cup uncooked medium barley (not quick cooking) (3)

### Baking

• 1/2 cup + 1 teaspoon honey (4, 5, 7, 11, 12)

### **Oils and Vinegars**

- 4 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil (7, 10)
- 2 tablespoons red wine vinegar (10)
- 2 teaspoons apple cider vinegar (7)

#### Miscellaneous

• 1 tablespoon + 1 teaspoon low sodium soy sauce (8, 9)

#### **Materials**

• 12 gallon-sized plastic freezer bag

#### Spices

- 1 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> teaspoon crushed red pepper (1, 5)
- 2 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> teaspoon black pepper (2, 3, 4, 9)
- 1 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> teaspoon salt (3, 5, 9, 12)
- 4tsp beef bouillon granules (9)
- 2 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> teaspoon garlic powder (2, 9)
- 1 tablespoon dried parsley (9)
- <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> teaspoon dill (9)

- 1 tablespoon dried buttermilk (optional, 9)
- 1 taco seasoning packet (10)
- 1 tablespoon chili powder (1)
- 2 teaspoons ground cumin (1)
- 1 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> teaspoon ground oregano (1)
- <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> cup + 1 teaspoon dried minced onion (9, 11)
- 1 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> teaspoons fennel seeds (2)
- 1 tablespoon + 1 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> teaspoons paprika (1, 2)
- 2 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> teaspoons onion powder (2, 5, 9)
- 2 teaspoons dried thyme (3)
- 1 teaspoon dried rosemary (3)
- 2 bay leaves (3, 4)
- 2 tablespoons Italian seasonings (4)
- 2 tablespoons curry powder (5)
- <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> teaspoon ground cayenne pepper (12)

#### Not Needed Until Day of Cooking

- 16 cups chicken broth (2, 4)
- 8 cups beef broth (3)
- 1 cup heavy cream (or half and half) (2)
- Suggested side dishes
  - 1. Turkey Black Bean Chili shredded cheese and chips
  - 2. Zuppa Toscana with Sweet Potatoes fresh bread
  - 3. Beef Barley Stew fresh bread
  - 4. Meatball Minestrone garlic bread
  - 5. Chicken Tikka Masala rice
  - 6. Easy Chicken Cacciatore spaghetti and salad
  - 7. Chicken Philly Cheesesteaks rolls, Provolone cheese, sweet potato fries
  - 8. Apricot-Ginger Chicken rice
  - 9. Homemade Mississippi Roast corn muffins
  - 10. Mexican Pot Roast rice
  - 11. Cranberry Pork Roast green beans and stuffing
  - 12. Shredded Lime Pork Tacos taco toppings and tortillas or rice

