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Ingredients - SERVING SIZE: 4

- 2 pounds ground beef (80% lean)
- salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste
- 4 slices Cheddar cheese
- 4 extra-long hot dog buns
- 2 tablespoons and 2 teaspoons mayonnaise
- 1/4 cup ketchup
- 1. Place half the ground beef on a sheet of plastic wrap. Pat it into a rectangular shape, about 1/2 inch thick, 8 1/2 inches long, and 4 inches wide. Season with salt and pepper. Roll the beef into a log, using the plastic wrap as a guide. Season with more salt and pepper. Wrap the plastic tightly around the log and twist both ends tight. Pat gently to slightly flatten. Repeat with remaining ground beef.
- 2. Preheat an outdoor grill for medium-high heat and lightly oil the grate. Remove the burger dogs from the plastic wrap and place on the grill, perpendicular to the grates. Cook until burgers are browned but still pink inside, 4 to 5 minutes, flip, and cook another 2 to 3 minutes. Place a slice of cheese on each burger dog and grill to medium doneness (an instant-read thermometer inserted into the center should read at least 140 degrees F/60 degrees C). Remove and rest 3 to 4 minutes.
- 3. Toast hot dog buns on the grill and spread each with 2 teaspoons mayonnaise. Place burger dog on each bun and squirt 1 tablespoon of ketchup on top.

Thought of the Day:

"May the sun in his course visit no land more free, more happy, more lovely, than this our own country!" — Daniel Webster

July: A Month to Celebrate Freedom - From Debt

With Independence Day as its iconic holiday, July is inextricably linked with the concept of freedom. While the month represents national liberty and a respite from the busy schedules of the school year, it provides an ideal opportunity to begin freeing yourself from the burden of financial trouble. The command to not spend more than you earn may sometimes be easier said than done. If you are struggling to keep your financial cushion inflated, consider implementing some of the following steps:

- Pay with cash whenever possible and cut up nonessential credit cards. Shopping with credit cards may give you an inflated sense of your budget. You may need to be strict with yourself about spending and limit the frequency with which you shop or dine out, but financial security will be a much greater reward than your daily latte.
- 2. Eliminate credit card and other interest-accruing debts as soon as possible. Once you have caught up with your debts, start amassing a savings. When many people receive a paycheck, they devote it to paying bills, purchasing essentials, and indulging in leisure activities. However, if you immediately channel ten to twenty percent of your paycheck into a savings account, you are less likely to use it for expenses that you could live without. Even if you are unable to save ten percent of your income, any amount, however insignificant, that you can afford to save will steadily begin to accumulate.
- 3. Stay informed about interest rate fluctuations and look for opportunities to refinance loans.
- 4. Keep a meticulous record of all of your expenditures. While this task may seem daunting, it is the best way to give yourself a clear picture of how much you are actually spending. Use the information to develop a realistic budget to which you adhere religiously.
- 5. Embrace the power of coupons and do not be afraid to ask for discounts. Small savings will add up, and you may be surprised by how many vendors will be willing to negotiate their rates.

"There is nothing wrong with America that cannot be cured by what is right with America." — Bill Clinton

Recipe courtesy of: allrecipes.com



Happy 4th Of July

On this day in 1776, the Declaration of Independence was approved by the Continental Congress, starting the 13 colonies on the road to freedom as a sovereign nation.

Declaration of Independence

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

http://www.archives.gov/national-archives-experience/charters/declaration.html

June 2015 was a banner month for home sales.

Prices are going up, folks. Buyers are plentiful, but the home inventory is not keeping up. *We have buyers for your home!* If you've thought about listing your home, please give me a call. This is a great time to be in the marketplace. Buyers from anywhere, please call me! I will go above and beyond to find you the

Tampa Bay Area Home of your Dreams!

Congratulations and Thanks to

Karen L, Randy and Lindsey, Mircea G, and Kathy A

