## Italian Zucchini and Sausage Soup

6 servings

This simple soup comes from my mother-in-law and sister-in-law. It's a great family favorite that's both simple and hearty, especially when served with buttered bread and a green salad. It is one of those soups that we would be happy to eat every week.

1 pound/450 grams mild bulk Italian sausage (pork, turkey, or chicken; remove from casings, if necessary)

4 cups/.9 liters chicken or beef stock

3 medium garlic cloves, peeled and finely minced

4-6 sticks celery, trimmed and thinly sliced

5 medium zucchini squash, halved and thinly sliced

1 onion, peeled and chopped

2 cups/475 ml diced tomatoes, canned or fresh

1 teaspoon Italian seasoning

1 teaspoon dried oregano

½ teaspoon dried basil

1 teaspoon unrefined salt (less if using store-bought stock)

Ground pepper

- Brown the sausage in a large pot over medium heat. If you're using turkey or chicken sausage, you will probably need to use a little bit of fat or oil to prevent it from sticking.
- 2. Add all of the rest of the ingredients to the cooked sausage and bring the soup to a boil over high heat.
- 3. Turn the heat to low and simmer, covered, for 20–30 minutes or until the vegetables are soft.
- 4. Salt and pepper to taste and serve. This soup, like most, is even better after a night in the refrigerator.

92

