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# Just Add Shoyu: A Culinary Journey Of Japanese Canadian Cooking



## Book Information

Hardcover

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Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars 1 customer review

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## Customer Reviews

From capturing mainstream dining imaginations around the world with sushi to reigning the culinary world in 2013 after being awarded UNESCO heritage status Japanese cuisine is internationally adopted, recognized and diversified. At the library for another reason and about to turn around and walk out there was Just Add Shoyu ('Just Add Soy Sauce') on the shelf as a featured book.

Appreciating sushi and enticed by the topic and attractive photography I borrowed it on a whim. Just Add Shoyu is not your typical Japanese cookbook however. Firstly, it is "A Culinary Journey Of Japanese Canadian Cooking." Nihon Shoku ('Japanese food') or Tabemono is rich and varied enough to sustain offshoots and survive somewhat without trouble, but for the record this hardcover and glossy book does not lay claim to the title of the most authentic or traditional Japanese cookbook. That is why entries like Spam Musubi, Japanese Chow Mein or Aunt Mitzi's Ginger Jelly Chicken exist next to sashimi, dashi or oden. Secondly, approximately seventy pages of this large-print book are allocated to recording and recounting the stories and travails of Japanese Canadians all the way from 19th to late 20th century. There are plenty of tidbits about this community and its members from coast to coast. Finally, there is as much emphasis on vivid and stylish photography as there is on recipes. Not that recipes and ingredients are neglected, but Just Add Shoyu clearly plays to another one of the strengths of Japanese cuisine, its visual appeal. Lest one forgets there is a practical aspect to this book of course. Taking advantage of having borrowed it I heated a tablespoonful of oil sautéed onion and pepper before setting them aside. I cut sausages diagonally, added them in small bites and, per instructions, just added and mixed in soy sauce to have Shoyu Wieners for dinner. The recipe also calls for brown sugar. Just Add Shoyu is a 272-page hardcover cookbook comprised of 83 recipes and more high resolution photographs. It was published by the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre in Toronto.

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