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## Veterans-For-Change

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## Rigatoni With Beef and Eggplant Ragu

Prep Time: 15 mins Cook Time: 20 mins Total Time: 35 mins

#### **Ingredients**

- > 8 ounce(s) pasta, whole-wheat, rigatoni or penne
- > 1/2 pounds beef, lean ground, 92%-lean
- 4 clove(s) garlic, chopped
- ➤ 1/2 teaspoon fennel seed
- 3 cup(s) eggplant, diced, (about 1/2 medium)
- 2 teaspoon oil, olive, extra virgin
- > 16 ounce(s) tomato sauce, no added salt
- > 1 cup(s) wine, dry red
- 1 tablespoon oregano, fresh, chopped, or 1/2 teaspoon dried
- ➤ 1/2 teaspoon salt
- > 1/2 teaspoon pepper, black ground
- > 2 teaspoon nuts, pine nuts, toasted
- ➤ 1/2 cup(s) cheese, feta, crumbled, (optional)



### **Preparation**

- 1. Bring a large pot of water to a boil. Cook pasta according to package directions.
- 2. Meanwhile, cook beef, garlic and fennel seeds in a large nonstick skillet over medium heat, until the beef is browned, about 3 minutes. Add eggplant and oil; cook, stirring occasionally, until the eggplant browns, about 5 minutes. Add tomato sauce and wine; cook, stirring occasionally, until the sauce thickens, about 10 minutes. Stir in oregano, salt and pepper.
- 3. Drain the pasta; serve topped with the sauce and sprinkled with pine nuts and feta, if using.