## **Berry Basil Lemonade**



## **INGREDIENTS:**

- 1 cup fresh strawberries, hulled and sliced ½ cup fresh blueberries ¼ cup fresh basil leaves, torn
- 1 cup freshly squeezed lemon juice (about 4-6 lemons)
- ½ cup granulated sugar (adjust to taste)
- 4 cups cold water lce cubes
- Fresh basil leaves and lemon slices for garnish (optional)

## **INSTRUCTIONS:**

- 1. In a blender, combine the strawberries, blueberries, torn basil leaves, and 1/4 cup of cold water. Blend until smooth.
- 2. Strain the berry mixture through a fine mesh sieve into a pitcher to remove seeds and pulp. You can press gently with the back of a spoon to extract more juice.
- **3.** In the same pitcher, add freshly squeezed lemon juice, granulated sugar, and the remaining 3 3/4 cups of cold water. Stir until the sugar is completely dissolved.
- **4.** Taste the lemonade and adjust sweetness by adding more sugar if desired.
- **5.** Chill the lemonade in the refrigerator for at least 30 minutes before serving to allow the flavors to meld.
- **6.** When ready to serve, fill glasses with ice cubes and pour the berry basil lemonade over the ice.
- Garnish each glass with a sprig of fresh basil and a slice of lemon if desired.
- 8. Stir gently before serving to distribute the flavors evenly.
- 9. Enjoy your refreshing berry basil lemonade!