

# Mixing Bowl

The makings of a delicious month, from juicy fruit skewers to sweet-and-spicy sips.



### **BURN NOTICE**

Veggies like asparagus and broccoli taste great crispy and charred from the grill, but the intense heat can burn them. Chef Helene Henderson, author of Malibu Farm Cookbook, has a simple trick for the perfect finish:

She tosses trimmed spears and florets in mayonnaise thinned with a little olive oil—about ¼ cup mayo and 1½ tsp. olive oil for every pound of veggies—before tossing them on the grates. Mayo's high smoke point helps protect the vegetables, and it burns off over the flames, so you'd never even know it was there.



# Tool to Try 'Wich Way

It's never been easier to turn your favorite scoop into a classic ice cream sandwich: The kitchen gadget company Chef'n's clever new Sweet Spot kit includes silicone molds that go from oven to freezer. Just pour cookie or brownie batter into the trays and bake, then smooth softened ice cream into the frame. Stack them together and chill for an hour, and you'll have a cool, custom layered treat. (\$20; williamssonoma.com)

#### Healthy Indulgence

### CRUNCH BERRIES

If you love candy apples, wait till you try this summertime version starring luscious ripe strawberries. Swirled in melted sugar that cools into a satisfyingly crunchy shell, they're our new go-to sweet on a stick.

#### **CANDIED STRAWBERRIES**

MAKES ABOUT 15 (or more if you can dip them fast enough) TOTAL TIME: 25 MINUTES

Rinse and carefully dry 1 pound strawberries. Place a colander upside down on a baking sheet or line a baking sheet with parchment paper and set aside. In a small, heavybottomed saucepan, stir together 2 cups sugar, 1 cup water, and 1/4 cup corn syrup. Bring to a boil over medium-high heat, stirring a few times only until sugar dissolves. As mixture heats, insert a thin wooden skewer partway through each strawberry. When mixture reaches 300° on a candy thermometer (after about 15 minutes), remove pan from heat and quickly dip strawberries in syrup, letting excess drip back into pan (the thinner the coating, the better). Place skewers strawberry side up in colander holes (taking care not to let hot sugar drip on you) or on prepared baking sheet, Serve immediately,



### EASY UPGRADE

#### FRUIT PUNCH

Put a new twist on your Bloody Mary by crossing it with a mouthwatering summer street food: juicy slices of ripe mango drizzled with hot sauce. For a tangy and tropical brunch cocktail, add mango nectar to tomato juice and vodka, suggests Lynn Calvo, author of Tiki with a Twist and owner of the bar Lynn's Hula Hut in Montauk, New York: Fill a Collins glass with ice. Add ¼ cup vodka, ½ cup tomato juice, 1/4 cup and 2 Tbsp. mango nectar, 1/8 tsp. lemon juice. and 1/8 tsp. sriracha. Tumble into a cocktail shaker, then return mixture to glass; repeat. Garnish the drink with a mango spear, and soon you'll be feeling caliente.

