

## Refrigerator Dill Pickles

## Makes approximately 4 pint jars

- 2 pounds cucumbers (pickling cucumbers or mini cucumbers preferred)
- 2-1/2 cups water
- 2-1/2 cups vinegar
- 2 Tablespoons + 1-1/2 tsp pickling/canning salt
- 1/3 cup sugar
- 4 garlic cloves
- 2 teaspoons mustard seeds
- 4 sprigs of dill weed (or 2 teaspoons dill seed)
- 2 teaspoons peppercorns (optional)
  - 1. Heat water, vinegar, salt and sugar in a saucepan and simmer for 10 minutes. Set aside and let it cool somewhat.
  - 2. Meanwhile, slice cucumbers into rounds. Fill four sterile pint jars with cucumbers.
  - 3. Add 1 garlic clove, 1 sprig dill or ½ teaspoon dill seed, ½ teaspoon mustard seed, and ½ tsp peppercorns to each jar.
  - 4. Pour warm liquid over the cucumbers in each jar to cover them.
  - 5. Use a chopstick or similar implement to remove any air bubbles. Wipe the jar tops and put on a lid and ring.
  - 6. Refrigerate at least 1-2 hours (flavors develop and get stronger the longer you let the pickles marinate in the brine.

Refrigerator pickles will last 2-6 weeks in the refrigerator. Do not eat if the brine becomes cloudy, mold develops or off-smells are emitted. Must be kept refrigerated to prevent bacterial growth.