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*by Liz Robb*

## Baked Vanilla Rice Pudding with Early Rhubarb



## Ingredients

**Early Rhubarb**

10-12 long stems of forced rhubarb

1 lemon

75g soft brown sugar

2 tablespoons of cold water  
Chop the rhubarb into short lengths and place them in a large saucepan. Grate in the lemon zest and add the juice of half of the lemon. Sprinkle in the brown sugar.

Cook the rhubarb very gently over a low heat, occasionally turning or moving the pieces without stirring, to prevent it from falling apart. Cook at a low simmer for 8-10 minutes, until the pieces are soft but still whole.

Spoon into a dish and allow to cool.

The rhubarb will still be quite tart

add a little more sugar if you have a sweet tooth.

If you are using later outdoor grown rhubarb, you may need to cook it for a little longer.

**Baked Vanilla Rice Pudding**

Butter

375 ml semi skimmed milk

80g double cream

Half a teaspoon of vanilla extract

60g pudding rice

50g light brown sugar

## Preparation

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- 9 <strong>Baked Vanilla Rice Pudding
- 10 </strong>1. Preheat the oven to 170 degrees, 150 degrees fan oven. Butter 4 individual ramekins.
- 11 2. Pour the milk and cream into a saucepan, add the vanilla extract and heat gently. Stir in the brown sugar.
- 12 3. Spoon the pudding rice into the buttered ramekins, dividing it equally between them. Pour in the milk and cream mixture, stir with the rice and dot on the top with small pieces of butter. Place the ramekins on a baking tray and bake in the preheated oven for about an hour, or until the tops are golden brown, almost all of the milk has been absorbed and the rice is soft.
- 13 Serve warm, accompanied by a large spoonful of the rhubarb.<strong>
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### Cooks Note

I love the long, delicate pale stems of forced early rhubarb that are grown in Yorkshire from December to March, before the more robust main crop appears in the shops.

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