Nancy's **essential 10** steps to making super soul-filling **soups**—every time!

- **1** Simmer your own simple stock
- 2 Use fresh and fantastic ingredients
- **3** Have your idea in place, mise-en-place ready, and make lots
- **4** Onions and other alliums (and raw meats) go in first
- **5** Sweat, stir and soften all other vegetables and fruits
- 6 Select and sweat seasonings (and stir in flour)
- **7** Stir in stock or water (and don't scrimp!)
- 8 Stir, bring to a boil, reduce heat, simmer and check
- **9** Taste, taste, taste!
- 10 Select your consistency and style: simple and earthy, smooth and creamy, puréed and strained, with or without dairy liquids, and either hot hot or nice and cold

Did you know that this essential soup system can be your guideline for making sumptuous stews and sauces? Try it yourself!

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