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Hollandaise Sauce

3 egg yolks
1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice, or to taste
Pinch of salt
1 cup (2 sticks) unsalted butter, melted
White pepper to taste

- 1. Whisk the egg yolks and 1 tablespoon of the lemon juice together in a small heavy saucepan or the top of a double boiler. Add a pinch of salt and whisk until the sauce is thick and creamy.
- 2. Set the pan over very low heat, or over simmering water in a double boiler, and begin whisking immediately. Continue to whisk until the egg mixture just begins to thicken: The wires of the whisk will begin to leave "tracks" through which you can see the bottom of the pan.
- 3. Remove the pan from the heat and begin to dribble in the melted butter, whisking constantly. Incorporate all the butter, but leave the white residue behind.
- 4. Add white pepper and a spoonful or two of additional lemon juice if you like. The sauce will keep, covered, in a warm (not hot) place for at least 30 minutes.

About 1-1/2 cups.