



## Main Page

Thursday February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2008, Space Shuttle Atlantis launched from the Kennedy Space Center in Florida. In recent press, you may have heard support for President Bush's space exploration plan is less than desired. Opinions on space exploration ranges from a waste of money to we need to do it. Even in the "we need to do it" camp, there are arguments as to which path to take. ([http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/02/01/AR2008020103258\\_2.html?hpid=topnews&sid=ST2008020200639](http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/02/01/AR2008020103258_2.html?hpid=topnews&sid=ST2008020200639))

No doubt, space exploration is expensive. NASA's budget for 2008 is \$17.3 billion dollars (about 0.6% of the total budget). This money can be used to repair the nation's bridges (<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/20095291/>), improve education, provide better health care, and host of other programs. However, Lets look at what we did get from NASA since its formation in 1958 (\$618 billion dollars in the past 50 years). Read the **Space Exploration and MTF** article and you will find out how NASA has changed our lives and why we should continue to invest in Space Exploration.

For this Month, we are sharing a simple Salmon Recipe. Its easy to make and little mess to clean up, and best of all, its moist and delicious!

March 22nd is the office arrival of Spring! Get your Spring cleaning done early, and get out and enjoy the outdoors!



## Space Exploration and MTFF 2008-03

Thursday February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2008, Space Shuttle Atlantis launched from the Kennedy Space Center in Florida. STS-122's mission is to deliver the European Space Agency's Columbus Research Laboratory module to the International Space Station.

In the past 50 years, space exploration has cost Americans \$618 billion dollars (inflation adjusted). Is it worth it? Let's look at a few of the "can't live without" items we have today that's derived from space exploration

How about the computer mouse the Millennials grew up with? In the Early 1960s, computers were large computational machines controlled by punch cards. To make the interaction between human and computers easier, thus making the computer easier to use, NASA sponsored a research that eventually led to the development of the computer mouse at Xerox in the 70s.

Can you imagine your life without TV? Beginning in the late 1950's, NASA pioneered the technology that made TV satellite broadcasts an every-day part of our lives.

The polarized sunglass we wear on sunny days is a derivative from Space Exploration. In the 1980s, NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory was tasked with developing a lens to block out harmful welding light during space craft manufacturing. The lenses they developed block the hazardous UV light, while allowing "good light" to pass through.

Besides the direct benefits, some of the intangible benefits are keeping our military strong, national pride, and grow and support our economy.

The original purpose of space exploration that kept the soviets in check needs to continue. Today, countries un-friendly to America are developing space technology that can be used as weapons (<http://www.time.com/time/world/article/0,8599,1580595,00.html>) .

For national pride, we train our athletes to compete in the Olympics, Successful space exploration, showcases United States technological know how, and it's a great source of pride.

A great example of supporting the economy is NASA's Spin-offs program. (<http://www.sti.nasa.gov/tto/spinhist.html> ) Required by law, every technology NASA developed for space exploration must be made available to American industries. Over the past 50 years, there were hundreds of companies that took advantage of this. An example is the MCV Iodinated Resin used for water purification on space missions. Adapted by MRLB INTERNATIONAL, INC., its now used by dentists through out the world. (<http://www.sti.nasa.gov/spinoff/spinitem?title=Beating+Back+Bacteria>)

Last week, while listening to BusinessWeek's Innovation of the Week Podcast, I learn the concept of channeling the "Opposable Mind" ([http://www.businessweek.com/mediacenter/podcasts/innovation/innovation\\_01\\_23\\_08.htm](http://www.businessweek.com/mediacenter/podcasts/innovation/innovation_01_23_08.htm)). In the podcast, it discussed how Procter & Gamble's CEO, Alan George "A.G." Lafley was faced with reducing R&D costs while continuing to come up with innovative products. Mr. Lafley's came up with Connective Develop, which is reducing his own R&D staff, while searching outside the company for innovative ideas. If he looked at NASA, he will find water filtration research (<http://www.sti.nasa.gov/spinoff/spinitem?title=Clean+Water+for+Remote+Locations>)



that may be helpful for his PUR water filtration products, ([http://www.pg.com/product\\_card/brand\\_overview.jhtml?document=%2Fproduct\\_cards%2Fprod\\_card\\_main\\_pur.xml&brand\\_name=Pur](http://www.pg.com/product_card/brand_overview.jhtml?document=%2Fproduct_cards%2Fprod_card_main_pur.xml&brand_name=Pur)) or, the research NASA did for Beating Back Bacteria (<http://www.sti.nasa.gov/spinoff/spinitem?title=Beating+Back+Bacteria>) for P&G's ORAL care products. ([http://www.pg.com/product\\_card/prod\\_card\\_oral\\_care.jhtml](http://www.pg.com/product_card/prod_card_oral_care.jhtml))

Private companies like Google, is sponsoring a global competition with a total prize of \$30 million dollars. Why would Google "give away" its money? ([http://www.efluxmedia.com/news\\_Ten\\_Teams\\_Compete\\_In\\_Gogles\\_30\\_Million\\_Lunar\\_Prize\\_X\\_Project\\_14319.html](http://www.efluxmedia.com/news_Ten_Teams_Compete_In_Gogles_30_Million_Lunar_Prize_X_Project_14319.html)) They understand technology developed for such competition, can and will be use for other things. This is the kind of forward thinking American's needs to adapt.

Space Explorations are expensive; however, we can easily pay for it if we stop wasting money on useless projects such as the teapot museum. (<http://www.carolinapoliticsonline.com/2007/10/07/sparta-nixes-teapot-museum/> ) NASA of 2008 is different than NASA of the 60s. Its administrators have adapted to use readily available products for its space exploration missions. For example, it will be purchasing "real world tested" computer systems used in the Boeing 777 passenger jet for its next generation Orion spacecrafts. NASA has shrunk its workforce from 400,000 in the 60s to about 2,200 today. NASA has learned and is doing more with fewer resources. (<http://www.fastcompany.com/magazine/121/to-the-moon-in-a-minivan.html?page=0%2C0> )

Before you cast your vote for the next President of the United States, ask him/her opinion on space exploration. Space Exploration is important to our future, and our children's future.

These are some of the links you can visit for more information on the benefits we have reaped from Space Exploration.

- <http://www.thespaceplace.com/nasa/spinoffs.html#health>
- [http://www.nasa.gov/externalflash/hits2\\_flash/index\\_noaccess.html](http://www.nasa.gov/externalflash/hits2_flash/index_noaccess.html)
- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/NASA\\_Budget](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/NASA_Budget)
- <http://www.sti.nasa.gov/tto/>
- <http://www.nasa.gov/vision/earth/technologies/spinoffs.html>
- <http://www.cnn.com/HEALTH/9811/02/space.medical/index.html>.



# Salmon en Papillote

## Salmon baked in Parchment Paper 2

**Source:** James Peterson, essentials of Cooking

**Serving Size:** 4

**Prep Time:** 1.5 hours

**Cooking Time:** 10~20 minutes



## Ingredient List

- 4 pcs of salmon fillets, 4~6 oz each
- 2 egg whites, lightly beaten
- 2 leek bulbs, julienned (cut length wise)
- 1 cup of dry white wine
- 1 stick of unsalted Butter
- Basil and/or tarragon

## Tools

- Brush
- Parchment paper  
(Important, don't Substitute with Wax Paper. Wax paper WILL catch fire in the oven)
- Wax Paper

## Instructions

### Herb Butter

- Soften Butter by hand in a bowl
- Cut/chop the herb (basil and/or tarragon) the mix herb together with the butter
- Place the butter on wax paper and roll into cylinder
- Refrigerate for **at least one hour**

### Leek bulbs, julienne

- Remove the greens, half the leek
- Cut about 1/4 " off the white end, separate each leave
- Peel back and remove 3 of the leaves at a time
- Julienne the leek

### Prepare the Salmon

- Preheat oven to 375 F
- Cut a square of parchment paper, fold it in half to crease it, and unfold it
- Center a piece of salmon fillet on the half to your right
- Top the salmon with julienned leeks
- Place a slice of herb butter on top and sprinkle the salmon with white wine
- Brush the edge of the right half of the parchment paper with lightly beaten egg white
- Fold the left half of the parchment paper over the salmon
- Press along the edges to seal the paper and brush the edge again with egg white

- Make a series of straight folds along the outer edge of the parchment paper, pressing firmly on each fold to help seal the paper

### Cooking the Salmon

- Place salmon on a baking sheet, bake for **7 to 10 min**, per inch of thickness, or until the bag is completely puffed up
- Warm serving plates
- Cut open the bag, Spoon the salmon and juice onto serving plate