## **Tomato: Preserve It**



## **Frozen Tomatoes**

Select firm, ripe tomatoes with deep red color.

- **Raw** (with skins left on): Rinse tomatoes and dry with a paper towel and cut away the stem scar. Place the tomatoes on cookie sheets and freeze. Tomatoes do not need to be blanched before freezing. Once frozen, transfer the tomatoes from the cookie sheets into freezer bags or other containers, leaving 1-inch headspace. To use the frozen tomatoes, remove them from the freezer a few at a time or all at once. To peel, just run a frozen tomato under warm water in the kitchen sink. Its skin will slip off easily.
- **Raw (with skins removed):** Wash and dip in boiling water for 30 seconds to loosen skins. Core and peel. Freeze whole or in pieces. Pack into containers, leaving 1-inch headspace. Seal and freeze. Use only for cooking or seasoning as tomatoes will not be solid when thawed.
- Juice: Wash, sort and trim firm, vine-ripened tomatoes. Cut in quarters or eighths. Simmer 5 to 10 minutes. Press through a sieve. If de- sired, season with 1 teaspoon salt to each quart of juice. Pour into containers, leaving headspace for jars with wide-top openings of 1/2 inch for pint; 1 inch for quart.
- **Stewed:** Remove stem ends, peel and quarter ripe tomatoes. Cover and cook until tender (10 to 20 minutes). Place pan containing tomatoes in cold water to cool. Pack into containers, leaving head- space of 1/2-inch for a pint and 1-inch for a quart.

## Freezing Green Tomatoes

Select firm, sound green tomatoes. Wash, core, and slice 1/4-inch thick. **For Frying:** Pack the slices into containers with freezer wrap between the slices. Leave 1/2-inch headspace. Seal and freeze.

Source: So Easy to Preserve, 2014