Microwave Cooked Pasta with Instant Chicken Parmesan

TIP: This is a great way to use leftover pasta to put together a fast, flavorful meal. Just use that pasta, chicken (or any) cold cuts, your favorite pasta sauce, some cheese, then cook it for about 1 1/2 minutes in the microwave oven, and you're done. Easy!

Preparation Time: About 3-5 minutes, depending on number and type of ingredients
Cooking Time: about 1 1/2 minutes

Needed
(for 1)

Handful Cooked/Leftover Pasta
Chicken (or any) **Cold Cuts**
Favorite Pasta Sauce
Handful Grated Mozzarella Cheese (can be substituted by any other favorite cheese)
Grated Parmesan Cheese
Microwave Oven Safe Bowl
Paper Towel

1. Put **a handful of cooked/leftover pasta** in a *microwave oven safe bowl.*

Add **a good shot of your favorite pasta sauce**, **a generous shake of grated Parmesan cheese**, and **2-3 slices of chicken** (or any other) **cold cuts shredded by hand**.

Add **a generous handful of shredded mozzarella** (or any other) **cheese**, and top with **another good shot of pasta sauce**.


2. Cover the bowl with a folded paper towel to minimize splatter, put the bowl in the middle of the microwave oven, and cook for about 1 1/2 minutes using your microwave oven's 100% POWER or HIGH heat setting. **NOTE:** I used a 1200 watt microwave oven. Cooking time will vary depending on your microwave oven wattage.
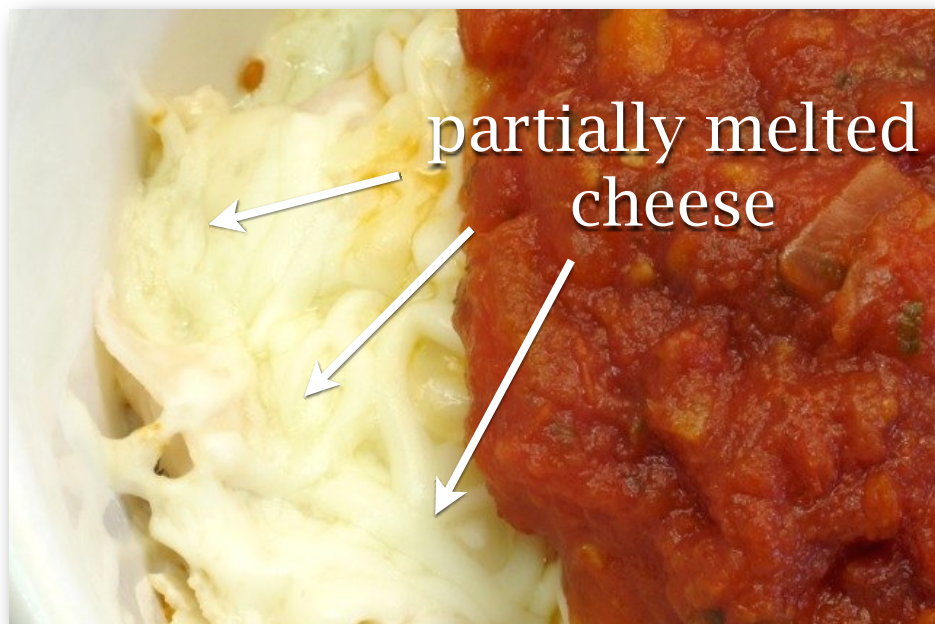
3. After warming, *carefully* remove the bowl from the microwave oven (I grip the bowl from the top bowl edge, where it is coolest), and…

…check for doneness. The **pasta with instant Parmesan** is properly cooked when the **cheese** has melted as shown here.
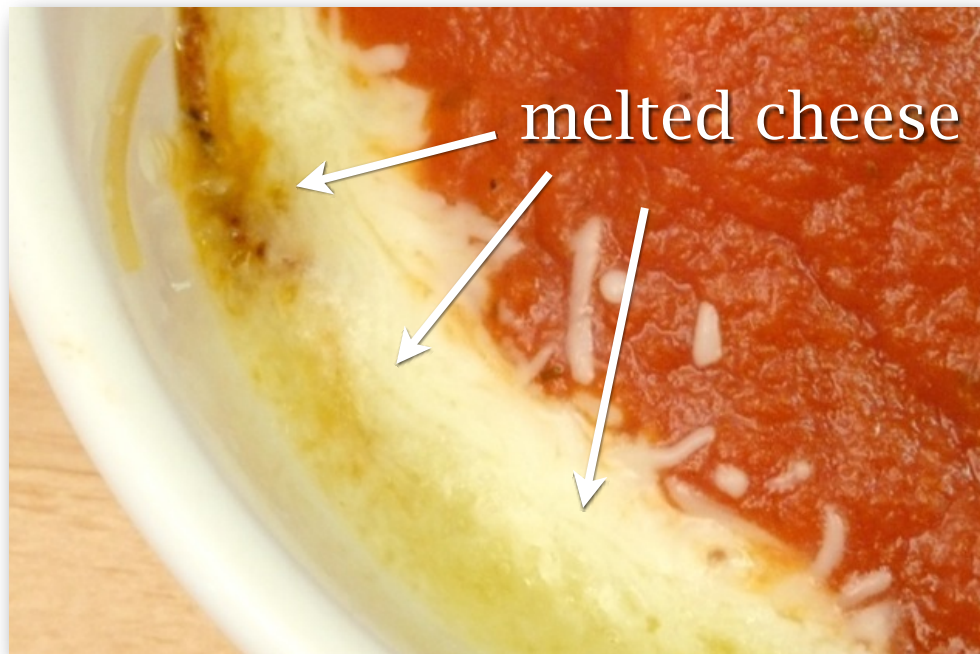
melted cheese

…If, however, the **cheese** in your bowl has not yet melted, as shown here,…

partially melted cheese

…keep cooking in the microwave oven at 30-second intervals until the **cheese** has melted (I sometimes have to do this depending on how full I make my bowl - no problem), and serve warm.