Cornbread, Sage, and Sausage Stuffing

For 2 to 2½ quarts, enough for a 14- to 16-pound turkey.

1 pound sausage meat

2 cups chopped onions

1½ cups chopped celery stalks

5 cups crumbled yellow cornbread (a box-label recipe is fine here)

1 cup lightly packed crumbs from fresh homemade type white bread

2 eggs, lightly beaten

Salt and freshly ground pepper

1 Tablespoon sage, or to taste

4 ounces (1 stick) melted butter

Break up the sausage meat and sauté in a frying pan for several minutes, until the color changes from reddish to gray. Scrape into a large mixing bowl, leaving the fat in the frying pan. In it sauté the onions until tender - 5 to 6 minutes; add the celery and sauté 2 minutes more. Blend the onions and celery with the sausage meat, adding the crumbled cornbread, white crumbs, and eggs. Season nicely to taste, and fold in the melted butter.

Reprinted with permission from The Way To Cook