Seared Lamb Chops with Olive Jus AUSTRALIAN LAMB ▼

OLIVE COMPOUND

4 tablespoons (1/2 stick) butter, softened

2 teaspoons Dijon mustard

1 tablespoon minced fresh basil

2 teaspoons minced garlic

2 teaspoons minced lemon zest

2 tables poons finely chopped Italian parsley

1/4 cup pitted kalamata olives, chopped

8 thick Australian loin lamb chops Kosher salt Coarsely ground black pepper 3 tablespoons olive oil,

or as needed 1 cup chicken stock or demi-glace

1 cup chicken stock or demi-glace Italian parsley sprigs, for garnish

1. To prepare Olive Compound, in a mixer or food processor, whip butter with all ingredients except olives until fluffy and well combined. Mix in olives. This can be made in advance and refrigerated for 1 week, or frozen for 1 month.

- **2.** When ready to cook the lamb, have olive compound at room temperature. Preheat oven to 475°F.
- 3. Salt and pepper chops liberally on both sides. Heat 1 tablespoon oil in a heavy skillet over medium-high to high heat. When very hot, add 2-3 chops, being careful not to overcrowd. Quickly sear on each side until browned but not cooked through. Transfer to a rack over a rimmed baking sheet. Repeat with remaining chops, using additional oil as needed. Reserve skillet to make sauce.
- Roast lamb for 20 minutes, or until internal temperature is 135-140°F (medium-rare).
- **5.** Place skillet in which lamb was browned over high heat, add chicken stock/demi-glace and boil liquid for 2-3 minutes, or until reduced to a glaze. Remove from the heat and vigorously whisk in the olive compound.
- **6.** To serve, spoon the sauce over the lamb and garnish with parsley. Makes 4 servings.

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