Roasted Vegetable Stock

3/4 lb. cremini mushrooms, halved

1/2 lb. shallots, unpeeled and quartered

1/2 lb. carrots, cut into 1-inch pieces

1 red bell pepper, cut into 1-inch pieces

2 garlic cloves, coarsely chopped

4 fresh flat-leaf parsley sprigs (including long stems)

3 fresh thyme sprigs

1 tablespoon olive oil

1/2 cup dry white wine

1 bay leaf

1/2 cup canned crushed tomatoes

1 quart water

3/4 teaspoon salt

Toss together vegetables and herbs with oil in a flameproof roasting pan. Roast, stirring occasionally, until vegetables are golden, 35-40 minutes.

transfer vegetables with a slotted spoon to a 4-quart saucepan. Straddle roasting pan across 2 burners, then add wine and deglaze pan by boiling over moderate heat, scraping up brown bits, 1-2 minutes. Transfer to saucepan and add remaining ingredients. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer, covered, stirring occasionally, 45 minutes.

Pour stock through a large fine-mesh sieve into a bowl, pressing hard on and then discarding solids.

Can be made ahead, cooled, uncovered and kept covered in refrigerator for a week or frozen, airtight for up to 1 month.

Makes approx. 4 cups.

