

## SPAM Dip and Crackers

1 can low-sodium Spam  
1 small tub of spreadable cream cheese  
Pineapple ice cream topping  
Ritz Crackers, no substitute

Open a can of spam and wipe it dry.  
Mash with two forks or chop in food processor.  
Line a small bowl or pie plate with plastic wrap.  
Slap in the spam, press down so you can mold it then turn upside down onto the serving plate.  
Cover the top and flip upside down so the mystery meat drains for about 30 minutes.  
Unmold onto your serving plate then frost the spam with the cream cheese just as you would a cake.  
Leave a rim on the top about 1/4 inch high, if you are lazy put the cream cheese in a baggie and pipe a rim.  
Just before serving pour on pineapple.

This is an honest to goodness tasty recipe. In 1982 a Puerto Rican dental assistant intern named Maria (who shall remain last-nameless) told me that she made this for each of her parties. Maria bragged that her friends would come to her house especially to eat this dish. Apparently she is famous for this appetizer because some of the other DA interns agreed that it was delicious.

Always the doubter, I tried it at 2 Super Bowl Game Parties and a potluck at work. This dish is a guy magnet! Would you believe that 6 men came up to ask me to share the recipe because it was "ono." Usually there are a bunch of men gathered around the plate but one guy had the whole plate in his hand and was using the crackers to spoon the stuff straight into his mouth. His wife was embarrassed and begged for the recipe.

You can really dress this pig up; I have actually used cake decorating techniques and fresh flowers. That is the only way that I can get some of my hoity-toity ladies to touch it. It is so easy and the kids love to participate in making it. Not counting draining, it only takes 15 minutes of preparation time. you can make it ahead of time too.