MASHED POTATOES

The drier the potatoes, the fluffier they will whip up.

 \cdot Place whole, peeled potatoes in a large pot filled with cold salted water. (Leaving them whole allows more of their starch to be retained, which leads to better body when mashed.)

 \cdot Bring to a boil over high heat and then cook for 40 minutes, or until the potatoes are just tender.

 \cdot Drain and return the potatoes to the (empty) pot they were cooked in.

 \cdot Dry them out over low heat for about 10 minutes, tossing gently and occasionally, until excess moisture is forced out and evaporates. ad_icon

 \cdot Proceed with your favorite preparation. (We like to send the potatoes through a ricer, then add butter, heavy cream, salt and pepper.)

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