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Sure, you have a bottle of Extra Virgin Olive Oil on your kitchen counter for its obvious uses, but did you know that it can be used in multiple ways? These are our top recipes that highlight the best qualities of this wonderful ingredient.

[1. Olive oil chocolate mousse with spiced pecans](#)



Not only does olive oil lend its distinct flavour to this decadent dessert, but it's also our secret to making a smooth and rich mousse. This is the one to make when you want to dazzle guests at a dinner party.

[Get the olive oil chocolate mousse with spiced pecans recipe here.](#)

2. Confit tomato, peppers and garlic



“Confit” refers to slow-cooking food in fat to preserve it. The technique couldn’t be easier and the result is deliciously perfect! Serve these confit tomato, peppers and garlic on cheese boards, add to salads or spread on toast. The options are endless.

[Get the confit tomato, peppers and garlic recipe here.](#)

3. Fail-proof focaccia bread



Olive oil adds a chewy texture and flavour to this popular Italian bread. Go the extra mile and infuse herbs in your olive oil before adding them as a topping to the loaf.

[Get the fail-proof focaccia bread recipe here.](#)

[4. Olive and lemon pasta](#)



The perfect dish for summer dining! We suggest using the best Extra Virgin Olive Oil you can find for this recipe. The mix of black and green olives adds a salty bitterness, complemented by a burst of lemony freshness.

[Get the olive and lemon pasta recipe here.](#)

5. [Best-ever pesto](#)



Once you make your own pesto from scratch, there's no going back. Don't get us wrong, the store-bought stuff saves time, but homemade pesto just has so much more herbaceous flavour. For a simple recipe like this, don't compromise on the quality of your Extra Virgin Olive Oil, look out for the [CTC seal](#) when shopping for your next bottle.

[Get the best-ever pesto recipe here.](#)

This article is supported by the SA Olive Industry Association. The SA Olive Awards is a premier fixture on the South African olive industry calendar which acknowledges the commitment and the strive for excellence that characterises our local olive oil industry
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