Homemade Burger Buns

adapted from King Arthur Flour

makes 8 4-inch diameter buns

- 3/4 cup water
- 1 tablespoon yeast
- 2 tablespoons butter, melted
- 1 egg
- 3 1/2 cup all purpose flour
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 1 1/4 teaspoon salt

the topping

3 tablespoons butter, melted

Mix all ingredients, except the butter that is reserved for the topping. I use a standing mixer for this, but you can do it by hand as well. Knead until all the ingredients are incorporated and the dough ball is smooth.

Place in a clean, oiled bowl and cover. Let rise until dough is doubled (1-2 hours).

Punch down dough, divide into 8 equal parts. Roll each piece into a ball. Press each dough ball into a disc 3-inches wide. (This will make a bun big enough for a 1/4 pound burger). Place on an oiled baking sheet. Cover with plastic wrap and let rise until puffy (about 1 hour).

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Brush tops of buns with melted butter. Bake for 15-18 minutes. Remove from oven and brush with the remaining butter. Transfer buns to a cooling rack and allow to cool completely. Once cool, slice buns in half horizontally and fill with your favorite foods, like Ground Bacon Burgers or Southwestern Chicken Burgers!

Any buns that you are not using that day can be frozen for future use. Place in a sealable bag and remove as much air as possible. Then freeze.