

One page cheatsheet for Tempering (Tadka)	
Poriyal (Vegetable side dishes)	Mustard seeds + cumin seeds + urad dhal + red chillies + channa dhal (optional) Fat: Coconut oil / Oil
Rasam (South Indian soup)	Mustard seeds + cumin seeds + curry leaves + asafoetida Fat: Ghee
Sambhar (tamarind and lentil gravy)	Mustard seeds + curry leaves + dry red chillies + fenugreek seeds + asafoetida Fat: Cooking oil
Vathakuzhambu (tamarind based spicy gravy) / any spicy gravies	Mustard seeds + curry leaves + dry red chillies + fenugreek seeds + asafoetida Fat: Sesame oil
Mor kuzhambu (yoghurt & coconut based gravy)	Mustard seeds + cumin seeds + curry leaves + dry red chillies + fenugreek seeds + asafoetida Fat: Coconut oil At the end or beginning
Kootu (veggie and lentil stew)	Mustard seeds + cumin seeds + curry leaves + dry red chillies + urad dhal + asafoetida Fat: Coconut oil At the end or beginning
Pongal / Khichdi (Indian porridge)	Cumin seeds + curry leaves + black peppercorns + ginger Fat: Ghee
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 For Vathakuzhambu and spicy dishes - Sesame oil is preferred.

3. For Rasam - ghee is used.

4. In general, normal cooking oil is used. For some the process is carried out in the beginning and for some at the end. It differs from recipe to recipe.

The above mentioned is a guideline. For more details, click on the recipe.