



HEALTH & WELLNESS

March / 04 / 2017



Make smart choices from every food group

Give your body the balanced nutrition it needs by eating a variety of nutrient-packed foods everyday. Just be sure to stay within your daily calorie needs. A healthy eating plan:

- Emphasizes fruits, vegetable, whole grains and fat-free or low-fat milk and milk products.
- Includes lean meats, poultry, fish, beans, eggs and nuts.
- Is low in saturated fats, trans fats, cholesterol, salt (sodium) and added sugars.

Get the most nutrition out of your calories

Choose the most nutritionally rich foods you can from each food group each day-those packed with vitamins, minerals, fiber and other nutrients but lower in calories.

- Focus on fruits. Eat a variety of fruits-fresh, frozen, canned or dried. For a 2,000 calorie diet, you need 2 cups of fruit each day.
- Vary your veggies. Eat more orange and dark green vegetables such as carrots, sweet potatoes, broccoli and dark leafy greens. Include beans and peas more often.
- Get your calcium-rich foods. Have 3 cups of low fat or fat-free milk-or an equivalent amount of low-fat yogurt and/or low fat cheese every day (1 ½ ounces of cheese equals 1 cup of milk). If you don't or can't consume milk, choose lactose-free milk products and/or calcium fortified foods and beverages.
- Make half your grains whole. Eat at least 3 ounces of whole-grain cereals, breads, crackers, rice or pasta every day. Look to see that grains are referred to as "whole" in the list of ingredients.
- Go lean with protein. Choose lean meats and poultry. Bake it, broil it or grill it. And vary your protein choices with more fish, beans, peas, nuts and seeds.
- Know the limits on fats, salt and sugars. Read the Nutrition Facts labeled on foods. Look for foods low in saturated fats and trans fats.

Find your balance between food and physical activity

Regular physical activity is important for your overall health and fitness-plus it helps control body weight, promotes a feeling of well-being and reduces the risk of chronic disease.

- Be physically active for at least 30 minutes most days of the week.
- For even greater health benefits and to help control body weight, be physically active for about 60 minutes a day.

- Children and teenagers should be physically active for 60 minutes every day, or most days.

Play it Safe with Foods

Prepare, handle and store food properly to keep you and your family safe.

- Clean hands, food-contact surfaces, fruits and vegetables. To avoid spreading bacteria to other foods, meat and poultry should not be washed or rinsed.
- Separate raw, cooked and ready-to-eat foods while shopping, preparing or storing.
- Cook meat, poultry and fish to safe internal temperatures to kill microorganisms.
- Chill perishable foods promptly and thaw foods properly.

GotHealth? Tip of the Month

Don't Fear Coffee

Coffee has been unfairly demonized. The truth is that it's actually very healthy.

Coffee is high in antioxidants, and studies show that coffee drinkers live longer, and have a reduced risk of type 2 diabetes, Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's and numerous other diseases.

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Wellness information courtesy of Wellness Proposals