



Diabetes and healthy eating

Good diabetes self-care includes following a healthy eating plan. Try to:

- Eat a variety of foods in the right amounts
- Check food labels for calorie, carbohydrate, total fat, and sodium amounts
- Eat regularly (small portions several times a day)
- Match how much you eat with your activity level
- Eat fewer foods high in calories, cholesterol, saturated fat, trans fat, and sodium

Talk with your diabetes care team if you have any questions about your healthy eating plan.

"Every time I prepare my foods now I think of my health beforehand."

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Making healthy food choices

- Lots of nonstarchy vegetables
- Whole-grain foods
- Fish at least 2 times a week
- Lean cuts of beef and pork
- Remove skin from chicken and turkey
- Non-fat or low-fat dairy products
- Water, unsweetened tea, coffee, and calorie-free "diet" drinks instead of drinks with sugar

- Liquid oils for cooking instead of solid fats
 - Limit quantities
- Choose whole foods over processed foods whenever possible





Ask your diabetes care team how many fruits a day are right for you

Tips for dining out with diabetes

- If you don't know what's in a dish or how it's prepared, ask
- · Ask for salad dressing, sauces, and gravy on the side
- Estimate your normal portion and put the extra in a container to go
- Try to limit alcohol and sugary drinks, or avoid them
- Don't rush! Eat slowly and really enjoy your meal





Estimating portion sizes

When you can't measure, you can estimate!

Keep in mind that all hands are different sizes. Before you estimate, compare your fist size to a measuring cup.

Portion size is the amount of a food you choose to eat at any one time.

Serving size is a set, measured amount of food as shown on the label below.







A palm equals about 3 ounces (cooked, boneless meat)

A thumb equals about 1 ounce or 1 tablespoon (peanut butter or salad dressing)



Reading a Nutrition Facts label

Use it to compare foods and to help you make decisions about the foods you choose to eat.

Check serving size. Information on the label is based on 1 serving. Keep in mind that packages often contain more than 1 serving. This example shows that the package contains 8 servings. But the food facts given are for only 1 serving.

Look at the amount of fat. Try to limit saturated fats and avoid trans fats.

Check how many grams of total carbs are in each serving. This number is important if you are counting carbs.

Notice how many grams of fiber are in each serving. Dietary fiber has many benefits on your body, such as helping to lower cholesterol. Therefore, try to choose foods with the most fiber.

Look at how many grams of added sugar the food contains. This is sugar that has been added as the food is made. Try to choose foods with less added sugar.

Nutrition Facts 8 servings per container Serving size 2/3 cup (55g) **Amount per serving** Calories % Daily Value* **Total Fat 8g** 10% Saturated Fat 1g 5% Trans Fat 0g Cholesterol 0mg 0% Sodium 160mg 7% **Total Carbohydrate 37g** 13% Dietary Fiber 4g 14% Total Sugars 12g Includes 10g Added Sugars 20% Protein 3g Vitamin D 2mcg 10% Calcium 260mg 20% 45% Iron 8mg 6% Potassium 235mg * The % Daily Value (DV) tells you how much a nutrient in a serving of food contributes to a daily diet. 2,000 calories

a day is used for general nutrition advice.

Know your nutrients and create your plate

1. Nonstarchy Vegetables

Fill half your plate with nonstarchy vegetables such as salad greens, broccoli, cauliflower, or squash.

2. Protein Foods

Fill one quarter of your plate, about 3 ounces, with lean protein foods. Fish, chicken, lean beef, soy products, and cheese are all foods that are high in protein.

3. Carbohydrate Foods

Fill one quarter of your plate with carbohydrate foods like whole grains, starchy vegetables, fruit, or dairy.

4. Water or a 0-calorie drink

Choose a drink without calories or carbs like water or unsweetened tea or coffee (hot or iced).

Protein Foods

Size of a deck of cards



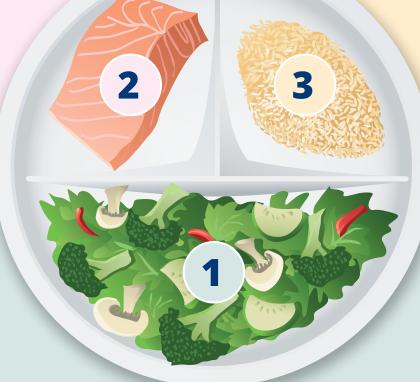
Carbohydrate Foods

Size of a computer mouse



Each carb serving listed contains 15 grams of carbs.

I need _____ grams of carbs per meal.



Ask your diabetes care team what the right amount of carbs is for you.

Nonstarchy Vegetables

- Do not raise blood glucose very much
- High in vitamins, minerals, and fiber, making them an important part of any healthy eating plan
- 1 cup raw or ½ cup cooked = 5 grams of carbohydrates

Artichoke hearts	Carrots	Mixed vegetables (without corn, peas, or pasta)	Sauerkraut
Asparagus	Cauliflower		Soybean sprouts
Baby corn	Celery	Mushrooms, all kinds, fresh	Spinach
Bamboo shoots	Cucumber	Okra	Squash (summer,
Bean sprouts	Eggplant	Onions	crookneck, zucchini)
Beans (green, wax, Italian)	Green onions or scallions	Pea pods	Tomato
Broccoli		Peppers (all varieties)	Torrideo
Brussels sprouts	Leafy greens (collard, kale, mustard, turnip)	Radishes	Turnips
Cabbage (green, bok choy, Chinese)	Leeks	Salad greens (lettuce, arugula, endive)	Water chestnuts

Noncarbohydrates

Protein Foods

- Protein foods do not raise blood glucose significantly
- Try to choose lean proteins and bake, grill, or broil them
- Each serving size of protein foods listed below = 0 grams of carbs
- A portion on your plate may be 3 oz of cooked meat or 3 servings
- Your number of servings per day will depend on your eating plan

Meat	inner or servings per day vim depend on your eating plan	SERVING SIZE
Beef	Lean—Ground round, roast, round, sirloin, steak, tenderloin Medium-fat—Corned beef, ground beef, prime rib, short ribs	1 oz 1 oz
Chicken	Lean—Without skin Medium-fat—With skin	1 oz 1 oz
Fish	Lean—Smoked: herring or salmon (lox) Medium-fat: Any fried product	1 oz 1 oz
Lamb	Lean—Chop, leg, or roast Medium-fat—Ground, rib roast	1 oz 1 oz
Pork	Lean—Canadian bacon, rib or loin chop/roast, ham, tenderloin Medium-fat—Cutlet, shoulder roast High-fat—Ground, sausage, spareribs	1 oz 1 oz 1 oz
Sandwich meats	Lean—Chipped beef, deli thin-sliced meats, turkey ham High-fat—Bologna, pastrami, hard salami	1 oz 1 oz
Sausage	Medium-fat—With 4–7 grams of fat per oz High-fat—Bratwurst, chorizo, Italian, knockwurst, Polish, smoked	1 oz 1 oz
Shellfish	Lean—Clams, crab, imitation shellfish, lobster, scallops, shrimp	1 oz
Veal	Lean—Loin chop, roast Medium-fat—Cutlet (no breading)	1 oz 1 oz

	Protein	Fat
Lean meat	7 g	0-3 g
Medium-fat meat	7 g	4-7 g
High-fat meat	7 g	8+ g

Meat Substitutes	SERVING SIZE
Beef jerky (lean)	½ oz
Cheese	
Lean—Cottage cheese	¼ cup
Medium-fat—Feta, mozzarella, reduced-fat cheeses, string	1 oz
High-fat—American, bleu, brie, cheddar, queso, and Swiss	1 oz
Egg (medium-fat)	1
Egg substitutes, plain (lean)	¼ cup
Egg whites (lean)	2
Hot dog	
Lean—3 grams of fat or less per oz	1
High-fat—Beef or pork	1
Sardines, canned (lean)	2 small
Tofu	½ cup



Fats

- Do not raise blood glucose significantly
- Use sparingly and limit saturated fat
- Will help slow the rise of blood glucose after meals
- Each serving size of fats listed below = 5 grams of fat

(2) all	
Unsaturated Fats (Monounsaturated)	SERVING SIZE
Avocado	2 Tbsp
Nut butters (trans fat-free)	1½ tsp
Nuts Almonds Cashews Peanuts Pecans Pistachios	6 6 10 4 halves 16
Oil: canola, olive, peanut	1 tsp
Olives, Black	8 large
Olives, Green, stuffed	10 large

Polyunsaturated Fats	SERVING SIZE
Margarine Lower fat spread (30%–50% vegetable oil, <i>trans</i> fat-free) Stick, tub (<i>trans</i> fat-free), or squeeze (<i>trans</i> fat-free)	1 Tbsp 1 tsp
Mayonnaise Reduced-fat Regular	1 Tbsp 1 tsp
Oil: corn, cottonseed, flaxseed, grape seed, safflower, soybean, sunflower	1 tsp
Salad dressing Reduced-fat Regular	2 Tbsp 1 Tbsp
Seeds: flaxseed (whole), pumpkin, sunflower, sesame	1 Tbsp
Walnuts	4 halves

Saturated Fats	SERVING SIZE	
Bacon	1 slice	
Butter Reduced-fat Stick Whipped	1 Tbsp 1 tsp 2 tsp	
Cream Half and half Heavy Light Whipped, pressurized	2 Tbsp 1 Tbsp 1½ Tbsp ¼ cup	
Cream cheese Reduced-fat Regular	1½ Tbsp 1 Tbsp	
Lard	1 tsp	
Oil: coconut, palm, palm kernel	1 tsp	
Shortening, solid	1 tsp	
Sour cream Reduced-fat or light Regular	3 Tbsp 2 Tbsp	

Carbohydrate Foods

- Most of the carbohydrates we eat guickly turn into blood glucose
- There are 3 main types of carbohydrates in the foods you eat, sugar, starch, and fiber
- When you look at food labels, "total carbohydrate" includes all 3 types
- A serving size of carbs listed = 15 grams of carbs

Bread

Bagel, large (about 4 oz)

Bread, reduced-calorie



Milk and Yogurts

Chocolate milk, fat-free or whole

Evaporated milk (all kinds)

Ice cream, light, no sugar added, or regular

Milk or buttermilk, fat-free, low-fat (1%), reduced-fat (2%), or whole

Soy milk, light or regular, plain

Yogurt, plain, whole



1 cup

1 cup

Starch/Grains

SERVING

1/4 (1 oz)

2 slices

SIZE



Starchy Vegetables	SERVING SIZE
Baked beans	¹ / ₃ cup
Beans, cooked (black, garbanzo, kidney, lima, navy, pinto, white)	½ cup
Corn on cob, large	½ cup
Lentils, cooked	½ cup
Mixed vegetables with corn, peas, or pasta	1 cup
Peas, green	½ cup
Potato Baked with skin Boiled, all kinds Mashed, with milk and fat French fried (oven-baked)	14 large (3 oz) 1⁄2 cup 1⁄2 cup 1 cup (2 oz)
Pumpkin, canned, no sugar added	1 cup
Squash, winter (acorn, butternut)	1 cup
Yam, sweet potato, plain	½ cup



Fruits	SIZE
Apple, unpeeled, small	1 (4 oz)
Applesauce, unsweetened	½ cup
Apricots, whole	4 (5½ oz)
Banana	½ (4 oz)
Blackberries	¾ cup
Blueberries	¾ cup
Cantaloupe, small	¹∕₃ melon or 1 cup
Cherries	12 (3 oz)
Dates	3
Dried fruits	2 Tbsp
Figs (fresh or dried)	1½
Fruit juice	½ cup
Grapefruit, large	½ (11 oz)
Grapes, small	17 (3 oz)
Honeydew melon	1 slice or 1 cup
Kiwi	1 (3½ oz)
Mango, small	½ fruit (5½ oz) or ½ cup
Nectarine, small	1 (5 oz)
Orange, small	1 (6½ oz)
Papaya	½ fruit or 1 cup
Peaches, medium	1 (6 oz)
Pears	½ cup (4 oz)
Pineapple	¾ cup
Plums, small	3
Prunes	2 (5 oz)
Raspberries	1 cup
Strawberries, whole	1¼ cups
Tangerines, small	2 (8 oz)
Watermelon	1 slice or 1¼ cups

Bread, white, whole-grain, pumpernickel, rye	1 slice (1 oz)
English muffin	1/2
Hot dog or hamburger bun	½ (1 oz)
Pancake, 4 inches across	1
Pita, 6 inches across	1/2
Roll, plain, small	1 (1 oz)
Taco shell, 5 inches across	2
Tortilla, corn or flour, 6 inches	1
Waffle, 4-inch square	1
Crackers and Snacks	SERVING SIZE
Animal crackers	8
Cookies, Chocolate chip	2 cookies
Crackers Round, butter type Saltine-type Sandwich-style, cheese or peanut butter filling Whole-wheat	6 6 3 2–5
Graham cracker, 2½-inch square	3
Oyster crackers	20
Popcorn	3 cups
Pretzels	3/4 OZ
Rice cakes, 4 inches across	2
Snack chips	



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