



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





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

BeefLean—Ground round, roast, round, sirloin, steak, tenderloin Medium-fat—Corned beef, ground beef, prime rib, short ribs1 ozChickenLean—Without skin Medium-fat—With skin1 ozFishLean—Smoked: herring or salmon (lox) Medium-fat: Any fried product1 ozLambLean—Chop, leg, or roast Medium-fat—Ground, rib roast1 ozPorkLean—Canadian bacon, rib or loin chop/roast, ham, tenderloin Medium-fat—Cutlet, shoulder roast High-fat—Ground, sausage, spareribs1 ozSandwich meatsLean—Chipped beef, deli thin-sliced meats, turkey ham High-fat—Bologna, pastrami, hard salami1 ozSausageMedium-fat—With 4-7 grams of fat per oz High-fat—Bratwurst, chorizo, Italian, knockwurst, Polish, smoked1 ozShellfishLean—Clams, crab, imitation shellfish, lobster, scallops, shrimp1 ozVealLean—Loin chop, roast Medium-fat—Cutlet (no breading)1 oz	Meat	31 7 1 7 31	SERVING SIZE
Medium-fat—With skin 1 oz Fish Lean—Smoked: herring or salmon (lox) 1 oz Medium-fat: Any fried product 1 oz Lamb Lean—Chop, leg, or roast 1 oz Medium-fat—Ground, rib roast 1 oz Pork Lean—Canadian bacon, rib or loin chop/roast, ham, tenderloin 1 oz Medium-fat—Cutlet, shoulder roast 1 oz High-fat—Ground, sausage, spareribs 1 oz Sandwich Medium-fat—Cutlet, shoulder roast 1 oz High-fat—Bologna, pastrami, hard salami 1 oz Sausage Medium-fat—With 4–7 grams of fat per oz High-fat—Bratwurst, chorizo, Italian, knockwurst, Polish, smoked 1 oz Shellfish Lean—Clams, crab, imitation shellfish, lobster, scallops, shrimp 1 oz	Beef		
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Veal Lean—Loin chop, roast 1 oz	Sausage	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
·	Shellfish	Lean—Clams, crab, imitation shellfish, lobster, scallops, shrimp	1 oz
	Veal	·	

	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

		Polyunsaturated Fats	SERVING SIZE
Unsaturated Fats (Monounsaturated)	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
Avocado	2 Tbsp	Mayonnaise	
Nut butters (<i>trans</i> fat-free)	1½ tsp	Reduced-fat Regular	1 Tbsp 1 tsp
Nuts Almonds Cashews	6	Oil: corn, cottonseed, flaxseed, grape seed, safflower, soybean, sunflower	1 tsp
Peanuts Pecans Pistachios	10 4 halves 16	Salad dressing Reduced-fat Regular	2 Tbsp 1 Tbsp
Oil: canola, olive, peanut	1 tsp	Seeds: flaxseed (whole),	
Olives, Black	8 large	pumpkin, sunflower, sesame	1 Tbsp
Olives, Green, stuffed	10 large	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

CEDVINIC

Know your nutrients and create your plate

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



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.



Carbohydrate Foods

- Most of the carbohydrates we eat quickly 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

Dairy

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

Starch/Grains

Bread	SERVING SIZE
Bagel, large (about 4 oz)	¼ (1 oz)
Bread, reduced-calorie	2 slices
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

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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 Fat-free or baked (tortilla, potato, pita) Regular (tortilla, potato)	15–20 9–13

Cereals and Grains	SERVING SIZE
Bran, dry, wheat	½ cup
Cereals Cooked (oats, oatmeal) Puffed Shredded wheat, plain Sugar-coated Unsweetened, ready-to-eat	½ cup 1½ cups ½ cup ½ cup ¾ cup
Couscous	¹∕₃ cup
Granola, low-fat or regular	¼ cup
Grits, cooked	½ cup
Pasta, cooked	¹∕₃ cup
Rice, white or brown, cooked	¹∕₃ cup
Wild rice, cooked	¹ / ₃ cup

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	1/4 large (3 oz)
Boiled, all kinds	½ cup
Mashed, with milk and fat	½ cup
French fried (oven-baked)	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

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 loose fist equals about 1 cup (milk, yogurt, dry cereal, etc.)





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 0% Cholesterol 0mg Sodium 160mg 7% **Total Carbohydrate 37g** 13% Dietary Fiber 4g 14% Total Sugars 12g Includes 10g Added Sugars 20% Protein 3g 10% Vitamin D 2mcg Calcium 260mg 20% 45% Iron 8mg Potassium 235mg 6% * 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.



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