




We Can! GO, SLOW, and WHOA Foods

Use this chart as a guide to help you and your family make smart food choices.

Post it on your refrigerator at home or take it with you to the store when you shop.

Refer to the *Estimated Calorie Requirements* to determine how much of these foods to eat to maintain energy balance.

- **GO Foods**—Eat almost anytime.
- **SLOW Foods**—Eat sometimes, or less often.
- **WHOA Foods**—Eat only once in a while or on special occasions.

| Food Group | GO (Almost Anytime Foods) | SLOW (Sometimes Foods) | WHOA (Once in a While Foods) |
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| Vegetables | Almost all fresh, frozen, and canned vegetables without added fat and sauces | All vegetables with added fat and sauces; oven-baked French fries; avocado | Fried potatoes, like French fries or hash browns; other deep-fried vegetables |
| Fruits | All fresh, frozen, canned in juice | 100 percent fruit juice; fruits canned in light syrup; dried fruits | Fruits canned in heavy syrup |
| Breads and Cereals | Whole-grain breads, including pita bread; tortillas and whole-grain pasta; brown rice; hot and cold unsweetened whole-grain breakfast cereals | White refined flour bread, rice, and pasta. French toast; taco shells; cornbread; biscuits; granola; waffles and pancakes | Croissants; muffins; doughnuts; sweet rolls; crackers made with <i>trans</i> fats; sweetened breakfast cereals |
| Milk and Milk Products | Fat-free or 1 percent low-fat milk; fat-free or low-fat yogurt; part-skim, reduced fat, and fat-free cheese; low-fat or fat-free cottage cheese | 2 percent low-fat milk; processed cheese spread | Whole milk; full-fat American, cheddar, Colby, Swiss, cream cheese; whole-milk yogurt |
| Meats, Poultry, Fish, Eggs, Beans, and Nuts | Trimmed beef and pork; extra lean ground beef; chicken and turkey without skin; tuna canned in water; baked, broiled, steamed, grilled fish and shellfish; beans, split peas, lentils, tofu; egg whites and egg substitutes | Lean ground beef, broiled hamburgers; ham, Canadian bacon; chicken and turkey with skin; low-fat hot dogs; tuna canned in oil; peanut butter; nuts; whole eggs cooked without added fat | Untrimmed beef and pork; regular ground beef; fried hamburgers; ribs; bacon; fried chicken, chicken nuggets; hot dogs, lunch meats, pepperoni, sausage; fried fish and shellfish; whole eggs cooked with fat |
| Sweets and Snacks* | | Ice milk bars; frozen fruit juice bars; low-fat or fat-free frozen yogurt and ice cream; fig bars, ginger snaps, baked chips; low-fat microwave popcorn; pretzels | Cookies and cakes; pies; cheese cake; ice cream; chocolate; candy; chips; buttered microwave popcorn |
| Fats/Condiments | Vinegar; ketchup; mustard; fat-free creamy salad dressing; fat-free mayonnaise; fat-free sour cream | Vegetable oil, olive oil, and oil-based salad dressing; soft margarine; low-fat creamy salad dressing; low-fat mayonnaise; low-fat sour cream** | Butter, stick margarine; lard; salt pork; gravy; regular creamy salad dressing; mayonnaise; tartar sauce; sour cream; cheese sauce; cream sauce; cream cheese dips |
| Beverages | Water, fat-free milk, or 1 percent low-fat milk; diet soda; unsweetened ice tea or diet iced tea and lemonade | 2 percent low-fat milk; 100 percent fruit juice; sports drinks | Whole milk; regular soda; calorically sweetened iced teas and lemonade; fruit drinks with less than 100 percent fruit juice |

*Though some of the foods in this row are lower in fat and calories, all sweets and snacks need to be limited so as not to exceed one's daily calorie requirements.

**Vegetable and olive oils contain no saturated or *trans* fats and can be consumed daily, but in limited portions, to meet daily calorie needs. (See Sample USDA Food Guide and DASH Eating Plan at the 2,000-calorie level handout)