MyPlate Daily Checklist

Find your Healthy Eating Style

Everything you eat and drink matters. Find your healthy eating style that reflects your preferences, culture, traditions, and budget—and maintain it for a lifetime! The right mix can help you be healthier now and into the future. The key is choosing a variety of foods and beverages from each food group—and making sure that each choice is limited in saturated fat, sodium, and added sugars. Start with small changes—“MyWins”—to make healthier choices you can enjoy.

## Food Group Amounts for 2,800 Calories a Day

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fruits</th>
<th>Vegetables</th>
<th>Grains</th>
<th>Protein</th>
<th>Dairy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 1/2 cups</td>
<td>3 1/2 cups</td>
<td>10 ounces</td>
<td>7 ounces</td>
<td>3 cups</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Fruits**: Focus on whole fruits
  - Focus on whole fruits that are fresh, frozen, canned, or dried.

- **Vegetables**: Vary your veggies
  - Choose a variety of colorful fresh, frozen, and canned vegetables—make sure to include dark green, red, and orange choices.

- **Grains**: Make half your grains whole grains
  - Find whole-grain foods by reading the Nutrition Facts label and ingredients list.

- **Protein**: Vary your protein routine
  - Mix up your protein foods to include seafood, beans and peas, unsalted nuts and seeds, soy products, eggs, and lean meats and poultry.

- **Dairy**: Move to low-fat or fat-free milk or yogurt
  - Choose fat-free milk, yogurt, and soy beverages (soy milk) to cut back on your saturated fat.

**Limit**
- Drink and eat less sodium, saturated fat, and added sugars. Limit:
  - Sodium to 2,300 milligrams a day.
  - Saturated fat to 31 grams a day.
  - Added sugars to 70 grams a day.

**Be active your way**
- Children 6 to 17 years old should move **60 minutes** every day. Adults should be physically active at least **2 1/2 hours** per week.
- Use **SuperTracker** to create a personal plan based on your age, sex, height, weight, and physical activity level.

[SuperTracker.usda.gov](http://SuperTracker.usda.gov)
**Food group targets for a 2,800 calorie* pattern are:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Food Group</th>
<th>Serving Size</th>
<th>Counts as</th>
<th>Write your food choices for each food group</th>
<th>Did you reach your target?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fruits</strong></td>
<td>2 1/2 cups</td>
<td>1 cup of fruits counts as</td>
<td>• 1 cup raw or cooked fruit; or • 1/2 cup dried fruit; or • 1 cup 100% fruit juice.</td>
<td>[ ] Y [ ] N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Vegetables</strong></td>
<td>3 1/2 cups</td>
<td>1 cup vegetables counts as</td>
<td>• 1 cup raw or cooked vegetables; or • 2 cups leafy salad greens; or • 1 cup 100% vegetable juice.</td>
<td>[ ] Y [ ] N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grains</strong></td>
<td>10 ounce equivalents</td>
<td>1 ounce of grains counts as</td>
<td>• 1 slice bread; or • 1 ounce ready-to-eat cereal; or • 1/2 cup cooked rice, pasta, or cereal.</td>
<td>[ ] Y [ ] N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Protein</strong></td>
<td>7 ounce equivalents</td>
<td>1 ounce of protein counts as</td>
<td>• 1 ounce lean meat, poultry, or seafood; or • 1 egg; or • 1 Tbsp peanut butter; or • 1/4 cup cooked beans or peas; or • 1/2 ounce nuts or seeds.</td>
<td>[ ] Y [ ] N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dairy</strong></td>
<td>3 cups</td>
<td>1 cup of dairy counts as</td>
<td>• 1 cup milk; or • 1 cup yogurt; or • 1 cup fortified soy beverage; or • 1 1/2 ounces natural cheese or 2 ounces processed cheese.</td>
<td>[ ] Y [ ] N</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Limit:**
- Sodium to **2,300 milligrams** a day.
- Saturated fat to **31 grams** a day.
- Added sugars to **70 grams** a day.

**Activity**
- Be physically active at least **2 1/2 hours** per week.

**Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion**

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* This 2,800 calorie pattern is only an estimate of your needs. Monitor your body weight and adjust your calories if needed.