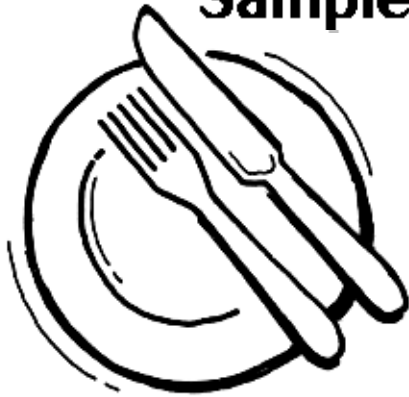


Sample Menus for a 2000 Calorie Food Pattern



Use this 7-day menu as a motivational tool to help put a healthy eating pattern into practice, and to identify creative new ideas for healthy meals. Averaged over a week, this menu provides the recommended amounts of key nutrients and foods from each food group. The menus feature a large number of different foods to inspire ideas for adding variety to food choices. They are not intended to be followed day-by-day as a specific prescription for what to eat.

Spices and herbs can be used to taste. Try spices such as chili powder, cinnamon, cumin, curry powder, ginger, nutmeg, mustard, garlic powder, onion powder, or pepper. Try fresh or dried herbs such as basil, parsley, cilantro, chives, dill, mint, oregano, rosemary, thyme, or tarragon. Also try salt-free spice or herb blends.

While this 7-day menu provides the recommended amounts of foods and key nutrients, it does so at a moderate cost. Based on national average food costs, adjusted for inflation to March 2011 prices, the cost of this menu is less than the average amount spent for food, per person, in a 4-person family.

DAY 1

BREAKFAST

Creamy oatmeal (cooked in milk):
½ cup uncooked oatmeal
1 cup fat-free milk
2 Tbsp raisins
2 tsp brown sugar
 Beverage: 1 cup orange juice

LUNCH

Taco salad:
2 ounces tortilla chips
2 ounces cooked ground turkey
2 tsp corn/canola oil (to cook turkey)
*¼ cup kidney beans**
½ ounce low-fat cheddar cheese
½ cup chopped lettuce
½ cup avocado
1 tsp lime juice (on avocado)
2 Tbsp salsa
 Beverage:
 1 cup water, coffee, or tea**

DINNER

Spinach lasagna roll-ups:
1 cup lasagna noodles(2 oz dry)
½ cup cooked spinach
½ cup ricotta cheese
1 ounce part-skim mozzarella cheese
*½ cup tomato sauce**
 1 ounce whole wheat roll
1 tsp tub margarine
 Beverage: 1 cup fat-free milk

SNACKS

2 Tbsp raisins
 1 ounce unsalted almonds

DAY 2

BREAKFAST

Breakfast burrito:
1 flour tortilla (8" diameter)
1 scrambled egg
*⅓ cup black beans**
2 Tbsp salsa
 ½ large grapefruit
 Beverage:
 1 cup water, coffee, or tea**

LUNCH

Roast beef sandwich:
1 small whole grain hoagie bun
2 ounces lean roast beef
1 slice part-skim mozzarella cheese
2 slices tomato
¼ cup mushrooms
1 tsp corn/canola oil (to cook mushrooms)
1 tsp mustard
 Baked potato wedges:
1 cup potato wedges
1 tsp corn/canola oil (to cook potato)
1 Tbsp ketchup
 Beverage: 1 cup fat-free milk

DINNER

Baked salmon on beet greens:
4 ounce salmon filet
1 tsp olive oil
2 tsp lemon juice
⅓ cup cooked beet greens (sauteed in 2 tsp corn/canola oil)
 Quinoa with almonds:
½ cup quinoa
½ ounce slivered almonds
 Beverage: 1 cup fat-free milk

SNACKS

1 cup cantaloupe balls

DAY 3

BREAKFAST

Cold cereal:
1 cup ready-to-eat oat cereal
1 medium banana
½ cup fat-free milk
 1 slice whole wheat toast
1 tsp tub margarine
 Beverage: 1 cup prune juice

LUNCH

Tuna salad sandwich:
2 slices rye bread
2 ounces tuna
1 Tbsp mayonnaise
1 Tbsp chopped celery
½ cup shredded lettuce
 1 medium peach
 Beverage: 1 cup fat-free milk

DINNER

Roasted chicken:
3 ounces cooked chicken breast
 1 large sweet potato, roasted
 ½ cup succotash (limas & corn)
1 tsp tub margarine
 1 ounce whole wheat roll
1 tsp tub margarine
 Beverage:
 1 cup water, coffee, or tea**

SNACKS

¼ cup dried apricots
 1 cup flavored yogurt (chocolate)

Sample Menus for a 2000 Calorie Food Pattern (cont'd)

| DAY 4 |
|---|
| <p>BREAKFAST</p> <p>1 whole wheat English muffin <i>1 Tbsp all-fruit preserves</i> 1 hard-cooked egg Beverage: 1 cup water, coffee, or tea**</p> <p>LUNCH</p> <p>White bean-vegetable soup: <i>1 ¼ cup chunky vegetable soup with pasta</i> <i>½ cup white beans*</i> 6 saltine crackers* ½ cup celery sticks Beverage: 1 cup fat-free milk</p> <p>DINNER</p> <p>Rigatoni with meat sauce: <i>1 cup rigatoni pasta (2 oz dry)</i> <i>2 ounces cooked ground beef (95% lean)</i> <i>2 tsp corn/canola oil (to cook beef)</i> <i>½ cup tomato sauce*</i> <i>3 Tbsp grated parmesan cheese</i> Spinach salad: <i>1 cup raw spinach leaves</i> <i>½ cup tangerine sections</i> <i>½ ounce chopped walnuts</i> <i>4 tsp oil and vinegar dressing</i> Beverage: 1 cup water, coffee, or tea**</p> <p>SNACKS</p> <p>1 cup nonfat fruit yogurt</p> |

| DAY 5 |
|--|
| <p>BREAKFAST</p> <p>Cold cereal: <i>1 cup shredded wheat</i> <i>½ cup sliced banana</i> <i>½ cup fat-free milk</i> 1 slice whole wheat toast <i>2 tsp all-fruit preserves</i> Beverage: 1 cup fat-free chocolate milk</p> <p>LUNCH</p> <p>Turkey sandwich <i>1 whole wheat pita bread (2 oz)</i> <i>3 ounces roasted turkey, sliced</i> <i>2 slices tomato</i> <i>¼ cup shredded lettuce</i> <i>1 tsp mustard</i> <i>1 Tbsp mayonnaise</i> ½ cup grapes Beverage: 1 cup tomato juice*</p> <p>DINNER</p> <p>Steak and potatoes: <i>4 ounces broiled beef steak</i> <i>¾ cup mashed potatoes made with milk and 2 tsp tub margarine</i> ½ cup cooked green beans <i>1 tsp tub margarine</i> <i>1 tsp honey</i> 1 ounce whole wheat roll <i>1 tsp tub margarine</i> Frozen yogurt and berries: <i>½ cup frozen yogurt (chocolate)</i> <i>¼ cup sliced strawberries</i> Beverage: 1 cup fat-free milk</p> <p>SNACKS</p> <p>1 cup frozen yogurt (chocolate)</p> |

| DAY 6 |
|---|
| <p>BREAKFAST</p> <p>French toast: <i>2 slices whole wheat bread</i> <i>3 Tbsp fat-free milk and ⅔ egg (in French toast)</i> <i>2 tsp tub margarine</i> <i>1 Tbsp pancake syrup</i> ½ large grapefruit Beverage: 1 cup fat-free milk</p> <p>LUNCH</p> <p>3-bean vegetarian chili on baked potato: <i>¼ cup each cooked kidney beans,* navy beans,* and black beans*</i> <i>½ cup tomato sauce*</i> <i>¼ cup chopped onion</i> <i>2 Tbsp chopped jalapeno peppers</i> <i>1 tsp corn/canola oil (to cook onion and peppers)</i> <i>¼ cup cheese sauce</i> <i>1 large baked potato</i> ½ cup cantaloupe Beverage: 1 cup water, coffee, or tea**</p> <p>DINNER</p> <p>Hawaiian pizza <i>2 slices cheese pizza, thin crust</i> <i>1 ounce lean ham</i> <i>¼ cup pineapple</i> <i>¼ cup mushrooms</i> <i>1 tsp safflower oil (to cook mushrooms)</i> Green salad: <i>1 cup mixed salad greens</i> <i>4 tsp oil and vinegar dressing</i> Beverage: 1 cup fat-free milk</p> <p>SNACKS</p> <p>3 Tbsp hummus 5 whole wheat crackers*</p> |

| DAY 7 |
|---|
| <p>BREAKFAST</p> <p>Buckwheat pancakes with berries: <i>2 large (7") pancakes</i> <i>1 Tbsp pancake syrup</i> <i>¼ cup sliced strawberries</i> Beverage: 1 cup orange juice</p> <p>LUNCH</p> <p>New England clam chowder: <i>3 ounces canned clams</i> <i>½ small potato</i> <i>2 Tbsp chopped onion</i> <i>2 Tbsp chopped celery</i> <i>6 Tbsp evaporated milk</i> <i>¼ cup fat-free milk</i> <i>1 slice bacon</i> <i>1 Tbsp white flour</i> 10 whole wheat crackers* 1 medium orange Beverage: 1 cup fat-free milk</p> <p>DINNER</p> <p>Tofu-vegetable stir-fry: <i>4 ounces firm tofu</i> <i>½ cup chopped Chinese cabbage</i> <i>¼ cup sliced bamboo shoots</i> <i>2 Tbsp chopped sweet red peppers</i> <i>2 Tbsp chopped green peppers</i> <i>1 Tbsp corn/canola oil (to cook stir-fry)</i> 1 cup cooked brown rice (2 ounces raw) Honeydew yogurt cup: <i>¾ cup honeydew melon</i> <i>½ cup plain fat-free yogurt</i> Beverage: 1 cup water, coffee, or tea**</p> <p>SNACKS</p> <p>1 large banana spread with <i>2 Tbsp peanut butter*</i> 1 cup nonfat fruit yogurt</p> |

Notes:

*Foods that are reduced sodium, low sodium, or no-salt added products. These foods can also be prepared from scratch with no added salt. All other foods are regular commercial products, which contain variable levels of sodium. Average sodium level of the 7-day menu assumes that no salt is added in cooking or at the table.

**Unless indicated, all beverages are unsweetened and without added cream or whitener.

Italicized foods are part of the dish or food that precedes it.



Sample Menus for a 2000 Calorie Food Pattern (cont'd)

Average amounts for weekly menu:

| Food group | Daily average over 1 week |
|--|---------------------------|
| GRAINS | 6.2 oz eq |
| Whole grains | 3.8 |
| Refined grains | 2.4 |
| VEGETABLES | 2.6 cups |
| Vegetable subgroups (amount per week) | |
| Dark green | 1.6 cups per week |
| Red/Orange | 5.6 |
| Starchy | 5.1 |
| Beans and Peas | 1.6 |
| Other Vegetables | 4.1 |
| FRUITS | 2.1 cups |
| DAIRY | 3.1 cups |
| PROTEIN FOODS | 5.7 oz eq |
| Seafood | 8.8 oz per week |
| OILS | 29 grams |
| CALORIES FROM ADDED FATS AND SUGARS | 245 calories |

| Nutrient | Daily average over 1 week |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Calories | 1975 |
| Protein | 96 g |
| Protein | 19% kcal |
| Carbohydrate | 275 g |
| Carbohydrate | 56% kcal |
| Total fat | 59 g |
| Total fat | 27% kcal |
| Saturated fat | 13.2 g |
| Saturated fat | 6.0% kcal |
| Monounsaturated fat | 25 g |
| Polyunsaturated fat | 16 g |
| Linoleic Acid | 13 g |
| Alpha-linolenic Acid | 1.8 g |
| Cholesterol | 201 mg |
| Total dietary fiber | 30 g |
| Potassium | 4701 mg |
| Sodium | 1810 mg |
| Calcium | 1436 mg |
| Magnesium | 468 mg |
| Copper | 2.0 mg |
| Iron | 18 mg |
| Phosphorus | 1885 mg |
| Zinc | 14 mg |
| Thiamin | 1.6 mg |
| Riboflavin | 2.5 mg |
| Niacin Equivalents | 24 mg |
| Vitamin B6 | 2.4 mg |
| Vitamin B12 | 12.3 mcg |
| Vitamin C | 146 mg |
| Vitamin E | 11.8 mg (AT) |
| Vitamin D | 9.1 mcg |
| Vitamin A | 1090 mcg (RAE) |
| Dietary Folate Equivalents | 530 mcg |
| Choline | 386 mg |