## Planning healthy meals



## Making healthy food choices

- Lots of nonstarchy vegetables
- Whole-grain foods
- Fish 2 to 3 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


Ask your diabetes care team how many fruits a day , are right for your meal plan

## Diabetes and healthy eating

- Good diabetes self-care means following your meal plan and keeping track of what you eat and drink
- Eat a variety of foods in the right amounts
- Be sure to 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 meal plan
"It took some time but I made the decision to do the things I needed to do to manage my diabetes. I started exercising and thinking more carefully about my food choices. Before too long, I had gained a lot of confidence in my ability to manage this disease."
- Karen R., South Carolina


## Estimating portion sizes

When you can't measure, you can estimate!


A fist equals about 1 cup


A palm equals about 3 ounces

These are only general guides.

## Finding the carb counts: Reading Nutrition Facts labels

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 information provided is for only 1 serving.

Look at the amount of fat, especially saturated and trans fat, in each serving.

See how many grams of carbs are in each serving.

You can also see 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.

Decide whether the food fits into your plan.

| Nutriton Eects |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| 8 servings per container |  |
| Serving size 2/3 cup | 2/3 cup (55g) |
| Amount per serving Calories | 2230 |
|  | \% Daily Value* |
| Total Fat 8 g | 10\% |
| Saturated Fat 1 g | 5\% |
| Trans Fat 0g |  |
| Cholesterol Omg | 0\% |
| Sodium 160mg | 7\% |
| Total Carbohydrate 37g | 37 g 13\% |
| Dietary Fiber 4g | 14\% |
| Total Sugars 12g |  |
| Includes 10g Added Sugars | 20\% |
| Protein 3g |  |
| Vitamin D 2mcg | 10\% |
| Calcium 260mg | 20\% |
| Iron 8mg | 45\% |
| 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.


## Noncarbohydrates

## Meat/Protein

- Meat and meat substitutes are a source of protein and do not raise blood sugar significantly
- Prepare meats without a batter. Bake, grill, or broil
- 3 oz cooked meat = deck of cards
- The following chart shows what 1 choice of meat and meat substitutes contains
- The number of servings per day varies by individual meal plan

| Meat |  | 1 CHOICE |
| :--- | :--- | :---: |
| Beef | Lean—Ground round, roast, round, sirloin, steak, tenderloin | 1 oz |
|  | Medium-fat—Corned beef, ground beef, prime rib, short ribs | 1 oz |
| Chicken | Lean—Without skin | 1 oz |
|  | 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 | Lean—chipped beef, deli thin-sliced meats, turkey ham | 1 oz |
| meats | High-fat—bologna, pastrami, hard salami | 1 oz |
| Sausage | Medium-fat—With 4-7 grams of fat per oz | 1 oz |
|  | High-fat—bratwurst, chorizo, Italian, knockwurst, Polish, smoked | 1 oz |
| Shellfish | Lean—Clams, crab, imitation shellfish, lobster, scallops, shrimp | 1 oz |
| Veal | Lean—Loin chop, roast | 1 oz |
|  | Medium-fat—Cutlet (no breading) | 1 oz |


|  | Protein | Fat |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Lean meat | 7 | $0-3$ |
| Medium-fat meat | 7 | $4-7$ |
| High-fat meat | 7 | $8+$ |


| Meat Substitutes | 1 CHOICE |
| :--- | :--- |
| Beef jerky (lean) | $1 / 2 \mathrm{oz}$ |
| Cheese <br> Lean—cottage cheese | $1 / 4$ cup |
| Medium-fat—feta, <br> mozzarella, reduced-fat <br> cheeses, string | 1 oz |
| High-fat—American, <br> bleu, brie, cheddar, queso, <br> and Swiss | 1 oz |


| Egg (medium-fat) | 1 |
| :--- | :--- |
| Egg substitutes, plain (lean) | $1 / 4$ cup |
| Egg whites (lean) | 2 |
| Hot dog <br> Lean—3 grams of fat or <br> less per oz <br> High-fat—Beef or pork <br> Sardines, canned (lean) | 1 |
| Tofu | $1 / 2$ small |



## Know your nutrients and

1 meat/protein choice = 0 grams of carbs

Size of a deck of cards

## Meat/Protein

## Examples:

Chicken, 3 ounces
Fish, 3 ounces
Beef, 3 ounces

## Nonstarchy Vegetables

- Do not raise blood sugar as much as starchy vegetables
- 1 cup raw or $1 / 2$ cup cooked = 5 grams of carbohydrates


## Artichoke hearts

## Asparagus

Baby corn
Bamboo shoots
Bean sprouts
Beans (green, wax, Italian)
Broccoli
Brussels sprouts

Carrots
Cauliflower
Celery
Cucumber
Eggplant
Green onions or scallions
Greens (collard, kale, mustard, turnip)
Leeks
Mixed vegetables (without corn, peas, or pasta)

Mushrooms, all kinds, fresh
Okra
Onions
Pea pods

| Peppers (all varieties) |
| :--- |
| Radishes |
| Sauerkraut |
| Soybean sprouts |
| Spinach |
| Squash (summer, crookneck, zucchini) |
| Tomato |
| Turnips |
| Water chestnuts |

# create your plate 

Each carb choice contains 15 grams of carbs.

I need carb choices per meal.

## Milk

Examples:
Milk, 1 cup
Plain yogurt, 1 cup
1 dairy choice =
12 grams of carbs

1 starch choice =
15 grams of carbs
Size of a
computer mouse


Size of a tennis ball

## Fruit

Examples:
Orange, small Blueberries, $3 / 4$ cup Watermelon, 1 slice

1 fruit choice =
15 grams of carbs

## Carbohydrates

- Most of the carbohydrates we eat
quickly turn into blood sugar

| Millk Milk and Yogurts |  | SERVING SIZE <br> OR PORTION |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Chocolate milk, fat-free or whole | $1 / 2$ cup |  |
| Evaporated milk (all kinds) | $1 / 2$ cup |  |
| Ice cream, light, no sugar added, or regular | $1 / 2$ cup |  |
| Milk or buttermilk, fat-free, low-fat (1\%), reduced-fat ( $2 \%$ ), or whole | 1 cup |  |
| Soy milk, light or regular, plain | 1 cup |  |
| Yogurt, plain, whole | 1 cup |  |


| Bread | SERVING SIZE OR PORTION |
| :---: | :---: |
| Bagel, large (about 4 oz) | 1/4 (1 oz) |
| Bread, reduced-calorie | 2 slices |
| Bread, white, whole-grain, pumpernickel, rye | $\begin{aligned} & 1 \text { slice } \\ & \text { (1 oz) } \end{aligned}$ |
| English muffin | 1/2 |
| Hot dog or hamburger bun | $1 / 2(1 \mathrm{oz}$ ) |
| 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 OR PORTION |
| Animal crackers | 8 |
| Cookies, Chocolate chip | 2 cookies |
| Crackers |  |
| Round, butter type | 6 |
| Saltine-type | 6 |
| Sandwich-style, cheese or peanut butter filling | 3 |
| Whole-wheat | 2-5 |
| Graham cracker, 2½-inch square | 3 |
| Oyster crackers | 20 |
| Popcorn | 3 cups |
| Pretzels | $3 / 4 \mathrm{OZ}$ |
| Rice cakes, 4 inches across | 2 |
| Snack chips |  |
| Fat-free or baked (tortilla, potato, pita) | 15-20 |
| Regular (tortilla, potato) | 9-13 |


| Cereals and Grains | SERVING SIZE OR PORTION | -2 | SERVING SIZE |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Bran, dry, wheat | 1/2 cup |  | OR PORTION |
| Cereals |  | Apple, unpeeled, small | 1 (4 oz) |
| Cooked (oats, oatmeal) | 1/2 cup | Applesauce, unsweetened | $1 / 2$ cup |
| Puffed | $11 / 2$ cups | Apricots | 4 whole ( $51 / 2 \mathrm{OZ}$ ) |
| Sugar-coated | 1/2 cup | Banana | 1/2(40z) |
| Unsweetened, | 3/4 cup | Blackberries | 3/4 cup |
| ready-to-eat |  | Blueberries | $3 / 4$ cup |
| Couscous | 1/3 cup | Cantaloupe, small | $1 / 3$ melon or |
| Granola, low-fat or regular | 1/4 cup |  | 1 cup |
| Grits, cooked | 1/2 cup | Cherries | 12 (3 oz) |
| Pasta, cooked | 1/3 cup | Dates | 3 |
| Rice, white or brown, cooked | 1/3 cup | Dried fruits | 2 Tbsp |
| Wild rice, cooked | 1/3 cup | Figs (fresh or dried) | $11 / 2$ |
|  |  | Fruit juice | 1/2 cup |
|  |  | Grapefruit, large | 1/2(11 oz) |
| Starchy Vegetables | OR PORTION | Grapes, small | 17 (3 oz) |
| Baked beans | $1 / 3$ cup | Honeydew melon | 1 slice or |
| Beans, cooked (black, | $1 / 2$ cup | Kiwi | 1 (31/2 oz) |
| navy, pinto, white) |  | Mango, small | $1 / 2$ fruit |
| Corn on cob, large | 1/2 cup |  | ( $51 / 2 \mathrm{OZ}$ ) or <br> 1/2 cup |
| Lentils, cooked | 1/2 cup | Nectarine, small | 1 (5 oz) |
| Mixed vegetables with corn, peas, or pasta | 1 cup | Orange, small | 1 (61/2 oz) |
| Peas, green | 1/2 cup | Papaya | $\begin{aligned} & 1 / 2 \text { fruit or } \\ & 1 \text { cup } \end{aligned}$ |
| Potato |  | Peaches, medium | 1 (6 oz) |
| Baked with skin | $1 / 4$ large (3 OZ) | Pears | $1 / 2 \operatorname{cup}(4 \mathrm{oz}$ ) |
| Boiled, all kinds | $1 / 2$ cup | Pineapple | $3 / 4$ cup |
| Mashed, with milk | $1 / 2$ cup | Plums, small | 3 |
| and fat |  | Prunes | 2 (5 oz) |
| French fried (oven-baked) | 1 cup (2 oz) | Raspberries | 1 cup |
| Pumpkin, canned, no sugar added | 1 cup | Strawberries | $11 / 4$ cups whole |
| Squash, winter (acorn, butternut) | 1 cup | Tangerines, small Watermelon | 2 (8 oz) |
|  |  |  | 1 slice or $11 / 4$ cups |
| Yam, sweet potato, plain | 1/2 cup |  |  |

## 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


## Cornerstones4Care

## Patient support program

When you enroll in Cornerstones4Care ${ }^{\circledR}$, you can:


- Use the Meal Planning Tool to help you create a meal plan based on your personal goals
- Get examples of what a balanced meal can look like
- Browse through dozens of healthy recipes and print out your favorites
You'll also get:
- Monthly e-mails to help you manage diabetes, tailored just for you
- Resources to help you with 4 "cornerstones" of diabetes care



## Checking your blood sugar

Making sure your diabetes care plan is working

Go to Cornerstones4Care.com to enroll.

