Choose your low-cholesterol, heart-healthy diet

To get the nutrients you need, you have to eat a variety of foods. One way to do this is to choose foods from the different food groups. After determining your dietary goals with your doctor, adjust the number and size of portions to reach and stay at your desired weight.

	Choose	Go Easy	Avoid
Meat, poultry, fish, and shellfish (up to 6 ounces/day)	Lean cuts of meat with fat trimmed, chicken and turkey without skin, fish, shellfish		"Prime"-grade fatty cui meat, goose, duck, live kidneys, sausage, bacon regular luncheon meats hot dogs
Dairy products (2 servings/day; 3 for pregnant or breastfeeding women)	Skim milk, 1% milk, low-fat buttermilk, low-fat evaporated or nonfat milk, low-fat yogurt, cottage cheese, cheeses labeled "no more than 2 to 6 grams of fat per ounce"	2% milk, yogurt, part-skim ricotta, part-skim or imitation hard cheeses (like part-skim mozzarella), "lite" cream cheese, "lite" sour cream	Whole milk, cream, ha half, imitation milk prov whipped cream, custar style yogurt, whole-mil ricotta, hard cheeses (li Swiss, American, ched muenster), cream chee sour cream
Eggs	Egg whites, cholesterol-free egg substitutes	Egg yolks (no more than 3/week)	
Fats and oils (up to 6 to 8 teaspoons/day)	Corn, olive, peanut, canola (rapeseed), safflower, sesame, and soybean oils, tub (not stick) margarine	Nuts, seeds, avocados, olives	Butter, lard, bacon fat, coconut and palm kem oils
Breads, cereals, pasta, rice, dried peas, and beans (6 to servings/day)	Most breads, bagels, English muffins, rice cakes, low-fat crackers (like matzo, bread sticks, rye krisps, saltines); hot and cold cereals; spaghetti, macaroni, noodles, and any grain rice; dried peas and beans	Store-bought pancakes, waffles, biscuits, muffins, and combread	Croissants, sweet rolls, danish, doughnuts, and crackers made with saturated oils; granola cereals made with satur oil, egg noodles, pasta, rice prepared with crea butter, or cheese sauce
Fruits and vegetables (2 to 4 servings of fruit/day; 3 to 5 servings of vegetables/day)	Fresh, frozen, canned, or dried fruits		Vegetables prepared in butter, cream, or sauce
Snacks (avoid too many sweets)	Sherbet, sorbet, Italian ice, frozen yogurt, popsicles, angel food cake, fig bars, gingersnaps, low-fat jelly beans and hard candy, plain popcorn, pretzels, fruit juices, tea, coffee	ke milk, fruit crisps and cobblers, homemade cakes, cookies, and pies prepared with unsaturated oils	lce cream, frozen tofu, candy, chocolate, potate chips, buttered popcon milkshakes, frappes, floa eggnog, store-bought pi most store-bought frost and pound cakes