

DASH Eating Plan

Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension

Eating nutritious foods will help you control your blood pressure. The DASH diet emphasizes fruits and vegetables, low fat milk products, and whole grains. It is a Mediterranean diet full of nutrients that are good for your heart and good for your health. This eating plan is for 1,800 calories per day. The sample menu on the following page is based on this plan.

Food Group	Servings	Serving Size	Examples
 Vegetables	4–5 per Day	1 cup raw leafy greens 1/2 cup chopped raw or cooked vegetables 1/2 cup vegetable juice	Lettuce, kale, spinach, broccoli, carrots, green beans, squash, sweet potatoes, tomatoes, asparagus, green peppers, low sodium tomato juice
 Fruits	4 per Day	1 medium fruit 1/2 cup cut fresh, frozen or canned fruit 1/4 cup dried fruit 1/2 cup 100% fruit juice	Apples, bananas, berries, oranges, pineapple, peaches, pears, grapes, melons, raisins, dried apricots <i>Limit juice to one serving a day</i>
 Grains	6–7 per Day	1 slice of bread 1/2 – 1 cup dry cereal 1/2 cup cooked rice, pasta or grain	Whole wheat bread and rolls, whole wheat pasta, English muffin, brown rice, pita bread, popcorn, oatmeal, quinoa, unsalted pretzels
 1% Fat or Non-Fat Milk and Dairy Products	2–3 per Day	1 cup milk or yogurt 1 1/2 ounce cheese	1% fat or non-fat milk, reduced fat cheese, fat free or low fat regular or frozen yogurt
 Poultry, Fish, Lean Meats	4–6 ounces per Day	1 ounce cooked meat, poultry or fish 1 egg = 1 ounce serving	Choose lean meat and trim visible fat, remove skin from poultry. Bake, broil or poach
 Beans, Nuts, Seeds	4 per Week	1/3 cup or 1 1/2 ounce nuts 2 tablespoons peanut butter 2 tablespoons or 1/2 ounce seeds 1/2 cup cooked beans or dry peas	Almonds, walnuts, sunflower seeds, peanuts, peanut butter, kidney beans, pinto beans, lentils, split peas
 Oils, Fats	2 per Day	1 teaspoon soft margarine 1 teaspoon vegetable oil	Soft margarine, vegetable oils (canola, corn, olive or safflower), low fat mayonnaise, light salad dressing
 Desserts, Sweets, Added Sugars	4 or less per Week	1 tablespoon jelly 1/2 cup sorbet 1 small cookie	Jams and jellies, fruit punch, hard candy, maple syrup, sorbet and ices, sugar