Nutrition Facts

Canada's Food Guide to Healthy Eating Serving Sizes

Following *Eating Well With Canada's Food* Guide allows you to meet your needs for vitamins, minerals and other nutrients and contribute to your overall health and vitality. Below is a chart that provides examples of serving sizes from each of the four food groups.

| FOOD GROUP | Examples of 1 serving | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| Vegetables and Fruit Refer to the food guide to determine the recommended number of servings per day based on age and gender | 1 medium-size vegetable or fruit 125 mL (1/2 cup) fresh, frozen, canned vegetables 125 mL (1/2 cup) juice 250 mL (1 cup) salad greens | | |
| Grain Products Refer to the food guide to determine the recommended number of servings per day based on age and gender. | 1 slice of bread 30 g cold cereal or 175 mL (3/4 cup) hot cereal 1/2 bagel, pita or bun 125 mL (1/2 cup) cooked pasta or rice | | |
| Milk and Alternatives Amounts per day: toddlers 2-3 yrs: 2 servings children 4-8yrs. 2 servings youth 9-18 yrs: 3-4 servings adults 19-50 yrs: 2 servings adults 50+: 3 servings pregnant & breastfeeding women: 3servings | 250 mL (1 cup) milk 50 g brick cheese or 2 slices processed cheese 175 mL (3/4 cup) yogurt 250 mL (1 cup) fortified soy beverage | | |
| Meat and Alternatives Refer to the food guide to determine the recommended number of servings per day based | 75 g (2 ½ oz.) 125 mL or ½ cup meat, poultry, fish 150 g (3/4 cup) tofu 30 mL (2 tbsp.) peanut butter | | |

175 mL (3/4-cup) legumes

2 eggs

on age and gender

How much is one Food Guide Serving?

Using Canada's Food Guide means understanding serving sizes and using this information to make wise food choices. Some serving sizes are easy, such as 1/2 bagel, 1 medium-size fruit or 2 eggs. Others are more difficult to figure out. You don't have to weigh your food. Simple items at home can be used as a reference to figure out what a serving size looks like. Use the chart below to reference sample serving sizes from Canada's Food.

What is a Serving Size?

| Item | Quantity Represented | Foods | Food Groups |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Baseball, light bulb or fist | 1 cup (250 mL) | cold cereal | 1 serving of Grain Products |
| (62) | | salad | 1 serving of Vegetables and Fruit |
| | | fruit, 1 medium | Vegetables and Fruit |
| | | milk | Milk and Alternatives |
| Tennis ball | ¾ cup (175 mL) | hot cereal | Grain Products |
| (| | yogurt | Milk and Alternatives |
| | | beans or lentils | Meat and Alternatives |
| Computer mouse | ½ cup (125 mL) | vegetables, cooked | 1 serving of Vegetables and Fruit |
| (A) | | tomato sauce | Vegetables and Fruit |
| | | potato, 1 medium | Vegetables and Fruit |
| | | pasta and rice | Grain Products |
| Deck of cards or palm of hand | 2½ oz (75 g) | meat, chicken or fish | 1 serving of Meat and Alternatives |
| Hockey puck | | bagel, small | 2 servings of Grain Products |
| | | bun, hamburger or hotdog | 2 servings of Grain Products |
| Two 9 volt batteries or two t | humbs 1½ oz (50 g) | cheese | 1 serving of Milk and Alternatives |

Adapted from Capital Health Edmonton March 2008

