THE PLANT-BASED HEALTHY PLATE

Use this plate to help you portion your food in a healthy way and make meal planning easier. Portions are based on a small dinner plate.

Fill one-quarter of your plate with a plantbased protein source, such as cooked beans, lentils, or tofu.

Fill half of your plate with nonstarchy vegetables, such as carrots, broccoli, spinach, cabbage, green beans, peppers, zucchini, onions, greens, tomatoes, or romaine lettuce.



Fill one-quarter of your plate with healthy grains or starches, such as brown rice, whole-wheat pasta, quinoa, bulgur, corn, peas, barley, farro, amaranth, 1 slice of whole-grain bread, 2 corn tortillas, or 1 whole-wheat tortilla.

For good nutrition also choose each day:

- 3 servings of fruit. A serving is a small orange, banana, or apple, or 1 cup of berries or melon.
- 2 to 3 cups of a milk substitute, such as almond, soy, or hemp.
- A small amount of healthy fats, such as extra virgin olive or canola oil, or a small handful of nuts.



Ideas for meals and snacks

These sample meals and snacks include foods from the shopping list below, and follow the tips on the other side. Use these ideas to build healthy, tasty meals. Or create your favorite combinations!

Breakfast		Lunch and Dinner Add 1 cup nondairy milk to each meal (optional)	
 4 oz. sprouted-grain or wheat bagel with almond butter or cashew cheese 1 cup diced melon 	 ¼ cup scrambled soft tofu with 3 oz. salsa and 1 cup spinach 1 sprouted-grain English muffin or 2 corn tortillas ¼ avocado ½ cup mango or pineapple 	 4 oz. baked tofu sandwich on sprouted-grain or wheat bread with 1-2 Tbsp. avocado, lettuce or spinach, tomato, and onion Carrots or broccoli 1 orange 	 2 cups stir-fried vegetables (sautéed with 1 tsp. olive oil and garlic) 1 cup quinoa, yam, or whole-grain pasta
 2 oz. whole-grain muesli cereal 1/2 banana, 1/2 cup berries 10 walnuts 1 cup nondairy milk 	 2 slices sprouted-grain or wheat toast 2 Tbsp. "natural" peanut butter 1 cup nondairy milk 1 small apple 	 3-4 oz. veggie (bean, lentil, soy) burger on sprouted-grain or wheat bun Garden salad with avocado and 1-2 Tbsp. oil and vinegar 	 2 cups vegetarian chili 2 Tbsp. pumpkin seeds or avocado 1 cup cabbage slaw with lime juice 1/3 cantaloupe
 1 cup plain almond or soy yogurt, mixed with 1 Tbsp. chia 	 ²/₃ cup brown rice ¹/₂ cup beans 	 dressing Diced peaches or pear 1 cup canned black bean soup (lower sodium) 1 cup kale (dropped into soup) 6 whole-grain crackers 1 apple 	
seeds and 2 Tbsp. raisins or ½ cup diced fruit • 1 small bran muffin	 1 cup cooked vegetables 1/2 cup salsa 1/2 cup avocado 		 Chinese cuisine ½ cup brown rice, wild rice, or quinoa
 2 slices sprouted-grain or wheat toast 1 cup berries 1 cup nondairy milk 	 1 cup oatmeal with 1 Tbsp. pumpkin seeds and 2 Tbsp. raisins or dried fruit 1 cup nondairy milk 		 1 cup broccoli tofu (sautéed in broth) 1 cup vegetarian hot-and-sour soup
		 1 low-fat, low-sodium frozen entrée or vegetarian entrée 	Indian cuisine • ½ cup beans or 1 cup lentil soup
Snacks		 Green salad with fresh 	(dal)
• 1/2 cup baked sweet potato	 Raw vegetables with hummus or vegetable paté 	vegetables, nutritional yeast, 1–2 Tbsp. olive oil and vinegar dressing or avocado	 1 whole-grain flatbread 1 cup diced cauliflower, onions, and tomatoes
• 2 tbsp. dried fruit or nuts			
• Fresh fruit	 Medium apple with 1-2 Tbsp. "natural" peanut butter 3 large rye wafer cracker 1½ oz. cashew cheese 	 1 plum ½-1 cup black-eyed peas 1 cup steamed greens with a dash of hot sauce 1 cup brown rice 1 fresh fruit 	 Mexican cuisine 2 bean tacos made with 2 corn tortillas, 1 cup whole beans, 2 Tbsp. avocado, salsa, shredded lettuce or cabbage, and tomatoes
• 3 cups air-popped or light microwave popcorn			
• ¹ / ₄ cup roasted garbanzo beans	Fresh nonstarchy vegetables		

Healthy meals start at the store. Use this shopping list to help you prepare.

✓ Fruits—fresh, frozen, canned in their own juice, or dried

- ✓ Vegetables—fresh, frozen, or low-sodium canned
- Plain nondairy milk (fortified soy, rice, oat, or almond)
- Plain nondairy yogurt (soy or almond)
- "Natural" peanut or other nut butter
- Cultured cashew cheese
- Olive or organic canola oil

- ✓ Light soy sauce, tamari, or Bragg's liquid aminos
- Sauerkraut or kimchee

- ✓ Whole beans (canned or dried), or lentils
- Hummus, bean spreads, or tahini
- ✓ Tofu (silken, firm), tempeh
- Avocado, olives, or sun-dried tomatoes
- Unsalted nuts and seeds
- ✓ Nutritional yeast
- ✓ Vegetable broth

- ✓ 100% whole-wheat or sproutedgrain bread, rolls, or bagels
- Rye wafer or whole-wheat crackers

Diced mango

- Srown rice or whole-wheat pasta
- ✓ Whole-grain cereal (oats, or muesli)
- ✓ Whole grains (bulgur, whole cornmeal, hulled barley, farro, millet, whole-wheat couscous, brown rice, or quinoa)
- Tortillas (corn, or whole- or sprouted-wheat)

This information is not intended to diagnose health problems or to take the place of medical advice or care you receive from your physician or other medical professional. If you have persistent health problems, or if you have additional questions, please consult with your doctor.

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