

How to Read a Label for a Peanut-Free Diet

All FDA-regulated manufactured food products that contain peanut as an ingredient are required by U.S. law to list the word "peanut" on the product label.

Keep the following in mind:

- The FDA exempts highly refined peanut oil from being labeled as an allergen. Studies show that most allergic individuals can safely eat peanut oil that has been highly refined (not cold pressed, expeller pressed, or extruded peanut oil). Follow your doctor's advice.
- A study showed that unlike other legumes, there is a strong possibility of cross-reaction between peanuts and lupine.
- Mandeions are peanuts soaked in almond flavoring.
- Arachis oil is peanut oil.
- Many experts advise patients allergic to peanuts to avoid tree nuts as well.
- Sunflower seeds are often produced on equipment shared with peanuts.

Peanut is sometimes found in the following:

African, Asian (especially Chinese, Indian, Indonesian, Thai, and Vietnamese), and Mexican dishes
baked goods (e.g., pastries, cookies)
candy (including chocolate candy)
chili

Avoid foods that contain peanut or any of these ingredients:

artificial nuts
beet nuts
cold pressed,
expeller pressed,
or extruded peanut oil
goobers
ground nuts
mixed nuts
monkey nuts
nutmeat
egg rolls
enchilada sauce
marzipan
mole sauce
nougat
nut pieces
peanut butter
peanut flour
peanut protein
hydrolysate

How to Read a Label for a Tree Nut-Free Diet

All FDA-regulated manufactured food products that contain a tree nut as an ingredient are required by U.S. law to list the specific tree nut on the product label.

Keep the following in mind:

- Mortadella may contain pistachios.
- There is no evidence that coconut oil and shea nut oil/butter are allergenic.
- Many experts advise patients allergic to tree nuts to avoid peanuts as well.

Talk to your doctor if you find other nuts not listed here.

Tree Nuts are sometimes found in the following:

nut oils (e.g., walnut oil, almond oil)
walnut hull extract (flavoring)
black walnut hull extract (flavoring)

Avoid foods that contain nuts or any of these ingredients:

almond
artificial nuts
beechnut
Brazil nut
butternut
cashew
chestnut
chinquapin nut
coconut
filbert/hazelnut
glandija
(*la chocolate-nut mixture*)
gingko nut
hickory nut
litchi/litchi/nut
macadamia
marzipan/almond paste
Nangai nut
natural nut extract
(e.g., almond, walnut)
nut butters (e.g., cashew butter)
nut meal
nut meat
nut paste (e.g., almond paste)
nut pieces
pecan
pesto
pili nut
pine nut (also referred to as
Indian, pignoli, piñon, pignan,
piñon, and piñon nut)
prunes
shea nut
walnut

How to Read a Label for a Wheat-Free Diet

All FDA-regulated manufactured food products that contain wheat as an ingredient are required by U.S. law to list the word "wheat" on the product label. The law defines any species in the genus *Triticum* as wheat.

Wheat is sometimes found in the following:

barbecue sauce
bouillabaisse
Caesar salad
caviar
fish flavoring
fish flour
fish gelatin (*kosher*
gelatin, marine gelatin)
fish maw
(*fish mow*)
fish dressing
nuoc mam
(*Vietnamese name*
for fish sauce;
beware of other
ethnic names)
pizza (anchovy
topping)
roe

Wheat is sometimes found in the following:

glucose syrup
soy sauce
starch (*gelatinized starch, modified*
vegetable starch)
surimi
durum
einkorn
emmer
farina
flour (*all purpose, bread, cake,*
durum, enriched, graham, high
gluten, high protein, instant, pastry,
self-rising, soft wheat, steel ground,
stone ground, whole wheat)
hydrolyzed wheat protein
whole wheat berries

How to Read a Label for a Shellfish-Free Diet

All FDA-regulated manufactured food products that contain crustacean shellfish as an ingredient are required by U.S. law to list the specific crustacean shellfish on the product label.

Keep the following in mind:

- Any food served in a seafood restaurant may contain shellfish protein due to cross-contact.
- For some individuals, a reaction may occur from inhaling cooking vapors or from handling fish or shellfish.

Shellfish are sometimes found in the following:

bouillabaisse
cutterfish ink
fish stock
abalone*
barnacles
clams*
(*cherrystone, geoduck,*
littleneck, pismo, quahog)
cockles*
crab
crawfish (crawdad, crayfish,
ecrevises)
cuttlefish*

scallop*
limpet* (*lapas, opah*)
lobster (*langouste, langoustine, sea urchin**
(*e.g., crab or clam extract*)
tuna(malley)*
mussels*
octopus*
oysters*
periwinkle*
prawns

* Your doctor may advise you to avoid mollusks as well.

Individuals who are allergic to one type of fish are typically advised to avoid all fish. If you want to have fish in your diet, talk to your doctor about the possibility of allergy testing for specific fish.

It is estimated that there are more than 20,000 species of fish. The FDA's "Seafood List" provides acceptable market names for seafood. To access the list, visit www.fda.gov and enter "Seafood list" in the search box.

Avoid foods that contain soy or any of these ingredients:

edamame	soy sauce
miso	tamari
natto	tempeh
shouyu	textured vegetable protein (TVP)
soy (soy albumin, soy cheese, soy fiber, soy flour, soy grits, soy ice cream, soy milk, soy nuts, soy sprouts, soy yogurt)	tofu
soya	
soybean (curd, granules) soy protein (concentrate, hydrolyzed, isolate)	

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How to Read a Label for a Milk-Free Diet

All FDA-regulated manufactured food products that contain milk as an ingredient are required by U.S. law to list the word "milk" on the product label.

Milk is sometimes found in the following:

artificial butter flavor	margarine
baked goods	nisin
caramel candies	nondairy products
chocolate	nougat
lactic acid starter culture and other bacterial cultures	
luncheon meat, hot dogs, sausages	

Avoid foods that contain milk or any of these ingredients:

butter, butter fat, butter oil, butter acid, butter ester(s), buttermilk	lactalbumin, lactalbamin phosphate, lactoferrin, lactose
casein, casein hydrolysate	milk (in all forms, including condensed, derivative, any evaporated, goat's milk and milk from other animals, low fat, melted, milkfat, nonfat, powder, protein, skimmed, solids, whole)
cheese	lactose
cottage cheese, cream	sour milk solids
curds	whey (in all forms)
custard	whey protein hydrolysate
ghee	yogurt
half-and-half	milk protein hydrolysate
	pudding

How to Read a Label for a Soy-Free Diet

All FDA-regulated manufactured food products that contain soy as an ingredient are required by U.S. law to list the word "soy" on the product label.

Keep the following in mind:

- The FDA exempts highly refined soybean oil from being labeled as an allergen. Studies show most allergic individuals can safely eat soy oil that has been highly refined (not cold pressed, expeller pressed, or extruded soybean oil).
- Most individuals allergic to soy can safely eat soy lecithin.
- Follow your doctor's advice regarding these ingredients.

Soy is sometimes found in the following:

- Asian cuisine, vegetable broth, vegetable gum, vegetable starch

How to Read a Label for an Egg-Free Diet

All FDA-regulated manufactured food products that contain egg as an ingredient are required by U.S. law to list the word "egg" on the product label.

Keep the following in mind:

- Individuals with egg allergy should also avoid eggs from duck, turkey, goose, quail, etc., as these are known to be cross-reactive with chicken egg.

Egg is sometimes found in the following:

baked goods	macaroni
egg substitutes	marzipan
lecithin	marshmallows

Avoid foods that contain eggs or any of these ingredients:

albumin (also spelled albumen)	ovalbumin
egg (dried, powdered, solids, white, yolk)	surimi
egg nog	
lysosyme	
mayonnaise	
meringue	
(meringue powder)	

How to Read a Label for an Fish-Free Diet

All FDA-regulated manufactured food products that contain fish as an ingredient are required by U.S. law to list the specific type of fish on the product label.

Keep the following in mind:

- If you have fish allergy, avoid seafood restaurants. Even if you order a non-fish item off the menu, cross-contact of fish protein is possible.
- Asian cookery often uses fish sauce as a flavoring base. Exercise caution when eating this type of cuisine.
- Fish protein can become airborne in the steam released during cooking and may cause an allergic reaction. Stay away from cooking areas when fish is being prepared.



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