

# Your 1200-calorie meal plan

## The importance of healthy eating

Healthy eating is an important part of managing your diabetes. The food in your meal plan will provide the calories and nutrients you need each day to manage your blood sugar and give you the energy you need for healthy living. Speak with your health care professional about the calorie meal plan that's right for you.

To lose weight, you will need to eat fewer calories or use up more calories by being more active. To gain weight, you will need to eat more calories than you use up. Your diabetes care team can help you figure out how many calories you need to take in each day and the amount of physical activity you should get, depending on your goal. Once you know the number of calories, be sure to check the calorie counts of the foods you eat. You can look up calorie counts online. You can also find them on the Nutrition Facts labels on packaged foods.

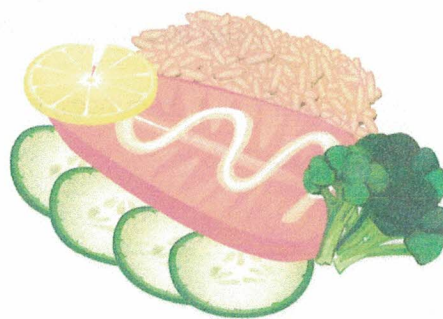
You may want to ask your doctor to refer you to a registered dietitian. This person can help you come up with a meal plan tailored just for you. You want to have the right balance of food, medicine, and activity.

## Choose your foods: Exchange lists for diabetes

The Exchange Lists offer a large selection of foods grouped together because they have about the same nutritional content. Each serving of a food has about the same carbohydrate, protein, fat, and calories as the other foods in that list. Any food within a list can be "exchanged" for another food in the same list.

Ask your diabetes care team for a copy of the **Cornerstones4Care®** booklet, *Carb Counting and Meal Planning*, from Novo Nordisk. It includes the Exchange Lists for Diabetes and other useful information on healthy eating. Use the Exchange Lists in *Carb Counting and Meal Planning* with this meal-planning information.

To learn more about healthy eating and menu planning, visit [Cornerstones4Care.com](http://Cornerstones4Care.com).



For more information, visit  
[Cornerstones4Care.com](http://Cornerstones4Care.com)

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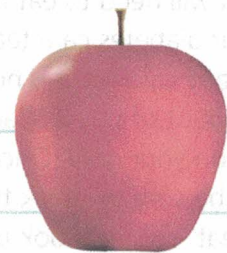


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For more information about meal planning, go to [Cornerstones4Care.com](http://Cornerstones4Care.com) and take advantage of our online Menu Planner to create a 7-day menu plan, including diabetes-friendly recipes and a customized grocery list.

The following sample menu for a 1200-calorie meal plan includes a total of 5 starch exchanges, 2 fruit exchanges, 2 milk exchanges, 3 nonstarchy vegetable exchanges, 5 meat exchanges, and 4 fat exchanges daily.

Meal	Exchanges	Sample
<b>Breakfast</b>	1 starch	½ cup cooked oatmeal
	1 fruit	¾ cup blueberries
	1 fat	6 almonds, chopped
	1 milk	1 cup fat-free milk
<b>Lunch</b>	2 starch	1 pita, 6 inches across
	2 meat, lean	2 ounces tuna in water
	1 fat	1 tablespoon reduced-fat mayonnaise
	1 vegetable	1 cup raw baby carrots
<b>Snack</b>	1 fruit	1 small apple (4 ounces)
<b>Dinner</b>	3 meat, lean	3 ounces grilled chicken breast
	2 starch	⅔ cup brown rice
	2 vegetable	1 cup sautéed spinach
	2 fat	2 teaspoons olive oil
	free food	1 cup tossed salad greens with 1 tablespoon fat-free dressing
<b>Snack</b>	1 milk	⅔ cup (6 ounces) low-fat yogurt



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