## Consistent Carbohydrate Diet

## Diabetic Meal Planning: 1800-2000 Calories

**Please note this meal plan also emphasizes foods lower in fat \& sodium.

## What is a Consistent Carbohydrate Diet?

- A healthy meal plan designed to maintain blood sugar control while allowing food choices to be flexible.
- Includes three balanced meals each day.
- A bedtime snack may be included within your meal plan depending on the type of diabetic medications you are prescribed.
- There is no need to eliminate carbohydrates or count calories, simply keep the number of servings of carbohydrates you consume the same from meal to meal.


## What are Carbohydrates?

- Carbohydrates are the major source of energy used by the body.
- Which foods contain carbohydrates?
- Bread, Crackers, Cereals, Pasta, Rice, and Grains
- Starchy Vegetables (Potatoes, Corn, Peas)
- Legumes/Beans
- Milk (Cow's, Soy, Rice, Almond) \& Yogurt
- Fruits \& Fruit Juices
- Sweets (Cakes, Cookies, Pies, Ice Cream, Jam \& Jelly)
- Sweetened Beverages (Regular Soda, Sweet Tea, Lemonade)

- In diabetes meal planning, 1 carbohydrate serving $=15$ grams of carbohydrate


## Basics for Meal Planning

## Breakfast

## Carbohydrate Foods

Your meal plan includes 4 servings of carbohydrate at breakfast ( $\mathbf{6 0} \mathbf{~ g m}$ carbohydrate). This means you can select 4 foods from the carbohydrate foods list. Each carbohydrate serving provides 15 grams of carbohydrate. Each of the foods listed below equals one serving or 15 gm carbohydrate.

| 1 slice bread | 1 small pancake or waffle <br> (4 inch diameter) | 1 cup berries or melon |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2 slices reduced-calorie bread | 3 prunes | 17 small grapes <br> 12 cherries |
| 1 small low fat muffin | 2 Tbs. raisins | 6 oz. low fat yogurt |
| $1 / 2$ English muffin | $1 / 2$ cup apple, grapefruit, orange, <br> pineapple juice | 4 oz. lite yogurt with fruit |
| $1 / 2$ cup cooked cereal | $1 / 3$ cup grape, prune juice <br> syrup | 1 Tbs. maple syrup, 2 Tbs. lite |
| $3 / 4$ cup dry cereal, unsweetened | 1 medium piece fresh fruit, 1 <br> small banana (4 inches) | 1 cup fat-free milk |
| $1 / 4$ large bagel | $1 / 2$ cup canned fruit, no sugar <br> added, juice pack | 1 cup buttermilk (fat-free) |

## Protein Foods

Your meal plan includes 1 oz . of protein at breakfast. You need protein each day for growth, maintenance and energy. Healthy choices are protein foods having 3 grams of fat or less per serving. Each of the foods listed equals one serving of 1 oz . protein.

| 1 egg | 1 Tbs. peanut, almond, cashew or soy nut butter |
| :---: | :---: |
| $1 / 4$ cup egg substitute or 2 egg whites | 1 oz. low sodium cheese $(3$ gm fat or less) or <br> $1 / 4$ cup low fat, low sodium cottage cheese |

## Added Fats

Choose 2 serving of added fat. Each of the foods listed below equals 1 serving fat.

| 1 tsp. margarine | $1 / 2$ <br> Tbs. reduced fat cream <br> cheese | 1 Tbs. lite mayonnaise |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $1^{1 / 2}$ tsp. peanut, almond, <br> cashew or soy nut butter | 1 Tbs. light margarine | 1 tsp. olive, canola or peanut oil |

## Lunch

## Carbohydrate Foods

Your meal plan includes 4 servings of carbohydrate at lunch ( 60 gm carbohydrate). This means you can select 4 foods from the carbohydrate foods list. Each carbohydrate serving provides 15 grams of carbohydrate.
Each of the foods listed below equals one serving or 15 gm carbohydrate.

| 1 slice bread | 112 cup white or sweet potatoes | $1 / 2$ cup canned fruit - no sugar added juice pack |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2 slices reduced-calorie bread | $1 / 2$ cup green peas or corn | $1 / 2$ cup apple, grapefruit, orange, pineapple juice |
| 1 small low fat muffin | 1 cup winter squash (acorn, butternut) | $1 / 3$ cup grape, prune juice |
| 1 dinner roll | $1 / 2$ cup dried beans, peas or lentils | 1 cup berries or melon |
| $1 / 2$ pita pocket (6 inch) | $1 / 3$ cup pasta or noodles | 17 small grapes 12 cherries |
| 3 squares graham crackers ( $21 / 2$ inch square) | $1 / 3$ cup rice, couscous, barley or quinoa | 6 oz . yogurt, plain or Greek 4 oz . lite yogurt with fruit |
| 6 unsalted crackers, saltine | 2 rice cakes | 1 cup fat-free milk 1 cup buttermilk (fat-free) |
| $1 / 2$ sandwich bun or hotdog roll | 1 medium piece fresh fruit, 1 small banana (4 inches) | $1 / 2$ cup spaghetti sauce |
| 6 inch tortilla (corn or flour) | $1 / 3$ cup bread stuffing | 1 oz. flatbread (ciabatta or naan) |

## Protein Foods

Your meal plan includes $\mathbf{3} \mathbf{~ o z}$. of protein at lunch. You need protein each day for growth, maintenance, and energy. Healthy choices are protein foods having 3 grams of fat or less per serving. Each of the foods listed below equals one serving of 1 oz . protein

| 1 oz. fish, skinless poultry | $1 / 4$ cup low fat, low sodium <br> cottage cheese | $1 / 2$ cup tofu |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 oz. lean beef, pork, veal, lamb | 1 oz. low sodium, processed <br> luncheon meat ( 3 gm fat or less) | 1 egg, 2 egg whites or $1 / 4 \mathrm{cup}$ egg <br> substitute |
| 1 oz. low sodium cheese ( 3 gm <br> fat or less) | 1 oz. venison, game meat | $1 / 2$ cup dried beans, peas, lentils |
| 1 oz. low sodium tuna or salmon (water-packed) | 1 Tbs. peanut, almond, cashew or soy nut butter |  |


| Added Fats <br> Choose $\mathbf{2}$ serving of added fat. Each of the foods listed below equals 1 serving fat. |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 tsp. margarine <br> 1 Tbs. lite margarine | 2 Tbs. reduced fat salad <br> dressing | 6 mixed nuts, cashews, almonds <br> or pecans, 4 walnut halves, 16 <br> pistachios (unsalted) |  |
| 1 Tbs. lite mayonnaise | 3 Tbs. low fat sour cream |  |  |
| $11 / 2$ tsp. peanut, almond, <br> cashew or soy nut butter | 1 tsp. olive, canola, peanut oil, <br> corn safflower, soybean | 2 Tbs. avocado (1/5 medium) |  |

## Dinner

| Carbohydrate Foods <br> Your meal plan includes 4 servings of carbohydrate at dinner (60 gm carbohydrate). This means <br> you can select 4 foods from the carbohydrate foods list. Each carbohydrate serving provides 15 grams <br> of carbohydrate. |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Each of the foods listed equals one serving of 15 gm carbohydrate. |  |  |

## Protein Foods

Your meal plan includes 4 oz . of protein at dinner. You need protein each day for growth, maintenance and energy. Healthy choices are protein foods having 3 grams of fat or less per serving.

Each of the foods listed equals one serving of 1 oz . protein.

| 1 oz. fish, skinless poultry | $1 / 4$ cup low fat, low sodium <br> cottage cheese | $1 / 2$ cup tofu |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 oz. lean beef, pork, veal, lamb | 1 oz. low sodium, processed <br> luncheon meat ( 3 gm fat or less) | $1 \mathrm{egg}, 2$ egg whites or $1 / 4$ cup egg <br> substitute |
| 1 oz. low sodium cheese ( 3 gm <br> fat or less) | 1 oz. venison, game meat | $1 / 2$ cup dried beans, peas, lentils |
| 1 oz. low sodium tuna or salmon (water-packed) | 1 Tbs. peanut, almond, cashew or soy nut butter |  |

## Added Fats

Choose 2 serving of added fat. Each of the foods listed below equals 1 serving fat.

1 tsp. margarine
1 Tbs. lite margarine

1 Tbs. lite mayonnaise
$11 / 2$ tsp. peanut, almond, cashew or soy nut butter

2 Tbs. reduced fat salad dressing

1 tsp. olive, canola, peanut oil, corn safflower, soybean

3 Tbs. low fat sour cream
6 mixed nuts, cashews, almonds or pecans, 4 walnut halves, 16 pistachios (unsalted)

2 Tbs. avocado ( $1 / 5$ medium)

## Vegetables

- Choose 3 to 5 servings of vegetables a day.
- One non-starchy vegetable serving is equal to:
- 2 cups salad greens
- 1 cup raw vegetables
- $1 / 2$ cup cooked vegetable

- $1 / 2$ cup vegetable juice
**Please note that starchy vegetables such as potatoes, corn, green peas, lima beans, and dried peas \& beans are included in the carbohydrate group.
- Select fresh, frozen or no salt added canned, cooked or raw. Draining and rinsing regular canned vegetables may remove significant amounts of sodium.

Vegetables Selections Include:

| Artichokes | Green Onions or scallions | Snow pea pods |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Asparagus | Greens (collard, kale) | Spaghetti Squash |
| Beans (green, Italian, wax) | Kale | Spinach |
| Beets | Kohlrabi | Sugar Snap Peas |
| Broccoli | Leeks | Summer Squash |
| Brussel sprouts | Lettuce/salad greens | Swiss Chard |
| Cabbage | Mushrooms | Tomato |
| Carrots | Okra | Tomato Sauce (unsweetened) |
| Cauliflower | Onions | Tomato/vegetable juice* |
| Celery | Peppers | Turnips |
| Cucumber | Radishes | Water Chestnuts |
| Eggplant | Rhubarb | Zucchini |
| Fennel | Sauerkraut* |  |

## *High Sodium Items $\rightarrow$ Avoid these items on Low Sodium Diet

## Free Foods

- Bouillon*
- Sugar-Free Carbonated Beverages
- Club Soda
- Coffee
- Tea
- Sugar-Free Gelatin
- Sugar-Free Gum
- Pickles*
- Light or No-Sugar Added Jelly (2 tsp.)
- Sugar-Free Syrup (2 Tbs.)
- Flavoring Extracts
- Fat-Free Salad Dressing
- Spices
- Herbs
- Vinegar
- Lemon Juice
- Horseradish
- Mustard
- Catsup (1 Tbs.)
- Soy Sauce*
- Salsa ( $1 / 4$ cup)*
- $1 / 2$ cup Raw Vegetables
- $1 / 4$ cup Cooked Vegetables
*High Sodium Items $\boldsymbol{\rightarrow}$ Avoid these items on Low Sodium Diet


## Combination Foods and Desserts

| Food Items | Amount | Food Groups |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Casserole-type Entrees (tuna noodle, lasagna, spaghetti with meatballs, chili with beans, macaroni \& cheese) | 1 cup (8 oz) | 2 carbohydrate, 2 medium-fat proteins |
| Stews (beef/other meats \& vegetables) | 1 cup (8 oz) | 1 carbohydrate, 1 medium-fat proteins, 0-3 fats |
| Cheese Pizza (thin crust, low fat cheese) | 1/4 of 12" pizza | 2 carbohydrate, 2 medium-fat proteins |
| Unsalted French Fries, baked | 10 | 1 carbohydrate |
| Tuna Salad or Chicken Salad | $1 / 2$ cup | 1/2 carbohydrate, 2 lean protein, 1 fat |
| Hummus | 1/3 cup | 1 carbohydrate, 1 medium-fat protein |
| Low Sodium Gravy, canned or bottled | $1 / 2$ cup | $1 / 2$ carbohydrate, $1 / 2$ fat |
| Edamame, shelled | 1/2 cup | $1 / 2$ carbohydrate, 1 lean protein |
| Soups (Low Sodium) |  |  |
| Bean, Lentil, or Split Pea | 1 cup | $11 / 2$ carbohydrate, 1 lean protein |
| Cream (made with water) | 1 cup | 1 carbohydrate, 1 fat |
| Vegetable beef, chicken noodle | 1 cup | 1 carbohydrate, 1 lean protein |
| Tomato Soup (made with water) | 1 cup | 1 carbohydrate |
| Fast Food |  |  |
| Main Dish Salad (grilled chicken-type, no dressing/croutons) | 1 salad ( $111 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{oz}$.) | 1 carbohydrate, 4 lean proteins |
| Grilled Chicken Sandwich with bun, lettuce, tomatoes, spread | 1 sandwich ( $71 / 2 \mathrm{oz}$.) | 3 carbohydrates, 4 lean proteins |
| Fish sandwich | 1 sandwich (5 oz.) | $21 / 2$ carbohydrate, 2 medium fat proteins, $11 / 2$ fat |
| Hamburger, regular with bun and condiments (catsup, mustard, pickle) | 1 burger ( ${ }^{1 ⁄ 2} \mathrm{oz}$.) | 2 carbohydrate, 1 medium fat protein, 1 fat |
| Desserts (occasional use only) |  |  |
| Angel Food Cake, unfrosted | 1/12 of cake ( 2 oz. ) | 2 carbohydrate |
| Brownie, small, unfrosted | $11 / 4$ " square | 1 carbohydrate, 1 fat |
| Cake, no icing | 2" square ( 1 oz. ) | 1 carbohydrate, 1 fat |
| Pie, commercially prepared fruit, 2 crusts | $1 / 6$ of 8 -inch pie | 3 carbohydrates, 2 fats |
| Pie, pumpkin or custard | $1 / 8$ of 8-inch pie | $11 / 2$ carbohydrates, $11 / 2$ fats |
| Chocolate Chip Cookies | 2 small ( $21 / 4$ " across) | 1 carbohydrate, 1 fat |
| Sugar-free, fat-free Pudding | $1 / 2$ cup | 1 carbohydrate |
| Ginger Snaps | 3 cookies (1 $1 / 2$ " across) | 1 carbohydrate |
| No-sugar added Ice Cream | $1 / 2$ cup | 1 carbohydrate, 1 fat |
| Fruit Juice Bars, frozen, 100\% juice | 1 bar | 1 carbohydrate |
| Sherbet | $1 / 4$ cup | 1 carbohydrate |
| Vanilla Wafers | 5 | 1 carbohydrate, 1 fat |
| Frozen Yogurt (fat-free) | 1/3 cup | 1 carbohydrate |

## A Word About Bedtime Snacks . . .

- For some individuals a bedtime snack is recommended as part of their meal plan, this is dependent on the type of diabetic medication you are prescribed.
- If you are prescribed $70 / 30$ insulin, $75 / 25$ insulin, or NPH insulin then a bedtime snack containing 1 serving of carbohydrate and 1 serving of protein is recommended (i.e. apple $\&$ peanut butter, or cheese \& crackers).
- If you are not on any of the above mentioned medications and you wish to have a bedtime snack, then 1 serving of protein is recommended (i.e. string cheese, or peanut butter with celery sticks).
- Your doctor may provide you additional guidelines for when a bedtime snack is necessary or recommended.


## All About Fiber . . .

- "Fiber" is a general term that refers to the part of plant foods that is not digested by the body.
- It has many health benefits including preventing constipation, lowering blood cholesterol levels, and helping to lower fasting blood sugar levels.
- What foods are rich in fiber?
- whole grain breads, cereals, pastas, \& brown rice
- legumes, nuts, \& seeds
- fresh fruits \& vegetables

- To boost fiber intake, look for products with 3+ grams of fiber per serving, whole-grain or whole-wheat flour as the first ingredient, or for the $100 \%$ whole grain slogan.


## Tips for Making Healthy Food Choices . . .

- Limit or avoid high calorie, high fat foods such as cake, cookies, pies, ice cream, \& doughnuts. Choose sugar free beverages, and unsweetened cereals.
- Select lean meats, remove skin from poultry, \& trim all visible fat from meat. Prepare meats by roasting, baking, broiling, grilling, or stir frying with nonstick cooking spray.
- Choose more heart healthy fats (salmon, tuna, walnuts, flaxseed, \& canola oil).
- Consume fat free or low fat dairy products.
- Avoid using salt shaker in cooking and at the table. Try Mrs. Dash. Choose low sodium foods, those containing <140 mg per serving. Limit convenience/processed food items.


## 1800-2000 Calorie Daily Meal Plan with Sample Menus

## Meal Plan

## Breakfast

- 4 Carbohydrate Servings (60 grams)
- 1 Fruit
- 2 Starch/Bread
- 1 Milk (fat-free)
- 1 oz. Protein Food
- 2 serving Fat
- Hot or Cold Beverage w/ Sugar Substitute (may be used with all meals)


## Lunch

- 4 Carbohydrate Servings (60 grams)
- 2 Fruit
- 2 Starch/Bread
- 1 or 2 Vegetables
- 3 oz. Protein Food
- 2 serving Fat
- Beverage


## Evening

- 4 Carbohydrate servings ( 60 grams)
- 1 Fruit
- 3 Starch/Bread
- 1 or 2 Vegetables
- 4 oz. Protein Food
- 2 serving Fat
- Beverage

| Sample Menu \#1 | Sample Menu \# 2 |
| :--- | :--- |
| Breakfast | Breakfast <br> $1 / 2$ cup Orange Juice <br> 1 cup Oatmeal |
| 1 cup Milk | 4 inch Banana |
| $1 / 4$ c Cottage Cheese | 2 slices Wheat Toast |
| 12 Almonds, unsalted | 1 cup Milk |
| Hot Tea | 2 Tbs. Low Fat Margarine |
|  | $1 / 4$ cup Egg Substitute |
|  | Coffee |

