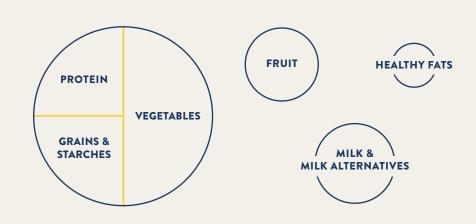


A plant-based diet can be beneficial for both the prevention and treatment of type 2 diabetes.

HEALTHY PORTIONS

Portion sizes are important in diabetes management, especially for foods containing carbohydrates (for example, fruit, grains and starches). Here are some handy portion guidelines:





GRAINS & STARCHES

Choose an amount the size of your fist



VEGETABLES

Choose an amount that is as much as you can hold in two hands



MILK & MILK ALTERNATIVES

Drink up to 1 cup (250 ml) with a meal



PROTEINS

Choose an amount the size of the palm of your hand



FRUITS

Choose an amount the size of your fist



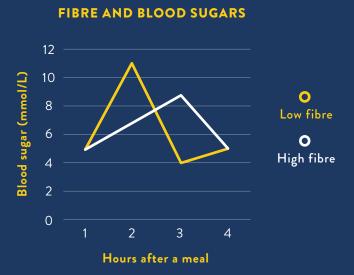
HEALTHY FATS

Choose an amount the size of the tip of your thumb

THE POWER OF FIBRE

The fibre found in many plant-based foods is an important tool in blood sugar management. Because fibre is digested slowly, it helps slow the release of glucose (sugar) into the blood stream. This leads to more stable blood sugar levels and a slower rise in blood sugars.

Foods high in fibre include whole grains, nuts, seeds, pulses (like beans, chickpeas and lentils), vegetables and fruits.



BUILDING A PLANT-BASED MEAL

To build a healthy, plant-based meal for diabetes, choose one food from each column.

| GRAINS & STARCHES* | PLANT-BASED PROTEINS | VEGETABLES | FRUITS* | MILK ALTERNATIVES* | HEALTHY FATS* | |
|--|-------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------|--|---|--|
| Barley | Black beans | Asparagus | Apple | Almond beverage | Avocado oil | |
| Brown rice | Chickpeas | Beets | Banana | Cashew beverage | Canola oil | |
| Bulgur | Fava beans | Bok choy | Blackberries | Coconut beverage | Flaxseed oil | |
| Farro | Kidney beans | Broccoli | Blueberries | Oat beverage | Olive oil | |
| Millet | Lentils | Carrots | Cherries | Rice beverage | Peanut oil | |
| Oats | Lima beans | Cauliflower | Dragon fruit | * Ensure your plant- based beverage is fortified with calcium and vitamin D | Non-hydrogenated margarine Almonds or almond butter | |
| Potatoes | Mung beans | Celery | Grapefruit | | | |
| Quinoa | Navy beans | Collard greens | Kiwi | | | |
| Whole grain cereal | Pinto beans | Cucumber | Mango | | Chia seeds | |
| | Tempeh | Eggplant | Melon | | Ground flax | |
| Whole wheat bread | Tofu | Green beans | Nectarine | | Hemp hearts | |
| Whole wheat pasta | | Kale | Orange | | Peanuts or | |
| | | Mushrooms | Peach | | peanut butter | |
| Whole wheat | | Okra | Pineapple | | Pumpkin or sunflower | |
| roti Wild rice | | Onion | Plum | | seed butter Walnuts | |
| | | Peppers | Raspberries | | | |
| * Adjust portion size based on your individual carbohydrate needs | | Salad greens | Strawberries | | * Eating healthy fats in moderation and as part of a balanced diet. | |
| | | Squash | | | | |
| | | Tomatoes | * Adjust portion | | | |
| | | Zucchini | size based on your individual | | | |

carbohydrate needs







MY MEAL IDEAS







| | GRAINS & STARCHES | PLANT-BASED PROTEINS | VEGETABLES | FRUITS | MILK ALTERNATIVES | HEALTHY FATS |
|-----------|-------------------|-------------------------|------------|--------|----------------------|-----------------|
| BREAKFAST | | | | | | |
| SNACK | | | | | | |
| LUNCH | | | | | | |
| SNACK | | | | | | |
| SUPPER | | | | | | |
| NACK | | | | | | |



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Sarah Glinski is a Registered Dietitian and holds a Bachelor of Science in Biology and a Bachelor of Science in Food and Nutrition Sciences. She is part of a team of leading digestive health experts at Ignite Nutrition in Calgary, Alberta that offers specialized nutrition counselling for digestive issues, women's health and food relationship. Sarah is currently a member of the 2021 Becel Centre for Heart Health Steering Committee, a team of registered dietitians working to create practical and relevant content.

References:



