Getting Started with MyPlate

Choose MyPlate.gov

MyPlate Icon

- MyPlate is part of a larger communications initiative based on 2010 Dietary Guidelines for Americans to help consumers make better food choices.
- MyPlate is designed to *remind* Americans to eat healthfully; it is not intended to change consumer behavior alone.
- MyPlate illustrates the five food groups using a familiar mealtime visual, a place setting.



ChooseMyPlate.gov

- The website features practical information and tips to help Americans build healthier diets.
- It features selected messages to help consumer focus on key behaviors. Selected messages include:
 - Enjoy your food, but eat less.
 - Avoid oversized portions.
 - Make half your plate fruits and vegetables.
 - Switch to fat-free or low-fat (1%) milk.
 - Make at least half your grains whole grains.
 - Compare sodium in foods like soup, bread, and frozen meals—and choose foods with lower numbers.
 - Drink water instead of sugary drinks.
- Choose MyPlate.gov¹ includes much of the consumer and professional information formerly found on MyPyramid.gov.

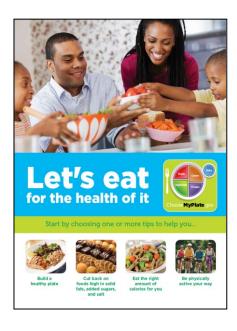


¹ MyPyramid resources will remain available to health professionals and nutrition educators in "Tips and Resources" section of the new website. A new website will be available in Fall/Winter 2011.

Consumer Resources

Let's Eat for the Health of It The 2010 Dietary Guidelines brochure

This brochure contains practical strategies to make healthy food choices. The Brochure highlights themes from the Guidelines such as *Balancing Calories, Foods to Reduce,* and *Foods to Increase.* This resource is available online as a PDF and print copies will be available in the near future.



10 Tips Series

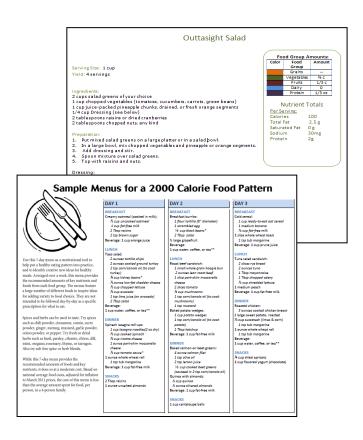
The 10 Tips Nutrition Education Series provides consumers and professionals with easy-to-follow tips in a convenient, printable format. Educators can use these to support existing lessons and consumers can choose one or more of these tips sheets to start making small changes toward healthier eating.

- 1. choose MyPlate
- 2. add more vegetables to your day
- 3. focus on fruits
- 4. make half your grains whole
- 5. got your dairy today?
- 6. with protein foods, variety is key
- 7. build a healthy meal
- 8. healthy eating for vegetarians
- 9. smart shopping for veggies and fruits
- 10. liven up your meal with vegetables and fruits
- 11. kid-friendly veggies and fruits
- 12. be a healthy role model for children
- 13. cut back on your kid's sweet treats
- 14. salt and sodium



Also on the web

- Sample Menus for a Week
- Food Group Based Recipes
- Historical Development of Food Guidance
- Nutrition Communicators Network for Partners Application Forms
- All print-ready content



MyPlate Style Guide

USDA encourages the use of the MyPlate icon in a variety of applications, including textbooks and other educational materials. Any educator or consumer interested in using the image should refer to this Guide for all appropriate use information.

