Flexible MEAL PLAN BUILDER

SIMPLE BLUEPRINTS TO CREATE **HEALTHY BALANCED MEALS**



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How you fuel your body matters. Healthy, balanced meals nourish your body with nutrients and keep you satiated and energized throughout the day. And the key to creating balanced meals is having the right mix of macronutrients.

What are Macronutrients?

Macronutrients, or "macros" for short, are nutrients your body needs in large amounts to function properly.

Macros come in three forms: carbohydrates (carbs), protein, and fat. Each macro comes with different benefits:

Carbohydrates

Carbs are broken down into glucose, your body's main energy source. They help you feel full and promote healthy bowel movements. But not all carbs are created equal.

Starchy carbs like bread, pasta, and rice are digested quickly. They make excellent short-term fuel sources. But when overconsumed, they're stored as fat.

Then you have fibrous carbs like non-starchy vegetables (think leafy greens). Fibrous carbs are high in fiber, which makes them digest more slowly. This helps you stay satiated longer and reduces the odds of them being converted into body fat.

Protein

Protein is made up of amino acids. Your body uses these amino acids to build muscles, bone, skin, and cartilage and repair tissue. Your body also depends on protein to make hormones and enzymes.

Fats

Fats store energy, support cell function, protect your organs, and help your body absorb vitamins and make hormones. But not all fats are the same.

Healthy fats include monounsaturated and polyunsaturated fats in nuts, seeds, fish, and avocados. Saturated fats found in butter, cheese, fried foods, and red meat can raise "bad" LDL cholesterol. So it's best limit them and to stick to healthy fats.

BREAKFAST BLUEPRINT

Fibrous veggies + fruits 1/2 of plate

Leafy greens

leaf lettuces collard greens bok choy microgreens beet greens turnip greens mustard greens dandelion greens chard romaine kale spinach arugula

4 Starchy carbs 1/4 plate (optional)

Starchy veggies

potatoes corn sweet potatoes butternut squash acorn squash parsnips peas turnips

Beans & legumes

black beans kidney beans chickpeas lentils

Whole grains

quinoa oats brown rice millet wild rice barley

Cruciferous veggies broccoli cauliflower Brussels sprouts cabbage

Fibrous fruits raspberries blackberries blueberries

strawberries

avocaodo

Other non-starchy veggies

cucumber celerv tomatoes onions garlic leeks

asparagus mushrooms vellow squash green beans artichokes zucchini eggplant peppers radishes fennel scallions carrots beets

 $2^{\text{N}}_{\text{Protein}}$ (3-5 oz) Palm size

Animal protein

eggs cottage cheese Greek yogurt cheese turkey chicken lean beef smoked salmon whey protein collagen peptides

Plant protein

vegan protein powder tofu chia seeds hemp seeds nuts & nut butters quinoa beans & legumes

Fruit apples pineapple mangos cherries peaches bananas grapes plums pears citrus fruits buckwheat

amaranth sprouted wheat

Healthy fats the size of a dice

olives & olive oil nuts and seeds (and their oils) grass-fed butter ghee coconuts & coconut oil lard, tallow & duck fat oily fish egg yolks avocado

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Berry Cottage Cheese Bowl

- Fibrous carb: 1 cup blackberries
- **Protein:** 3/4 cup cottage cheese
- Fat: 1/4 cup pecans

Green Protein Smoothie

- Fibrous carb: 1 handful spinach & 1/2 cup cauliflower rice
- Protein: 1 scoop vegan protein powder & 1 cup almond milk
- Fat: 1 tbsp almond butter
- Starchy carb: 1/2 banana

Blueberry Yogurt Bowl

- Fibrous carb: 1 cup blueberries
- Protein: 3/4 cup Greek yogurt
- Fat: 1 tbsp ground flaxseed & 1 tbsp chia seeds

Veggie Scramble

- Fibrous carb: chopped onion, mushrooms & spinach
- Protein: 2 pasture raised eggs
- Fat: egg yolks
- Starchy carb: 1 piece whole grain toast

Turkey Sausage w/Cucumber Tomato Salad

- Fibrous carb: 1 cup chopped cucumber & 1 cup cherry tomatoes
- **Protein:** 3.5 oz homemade turkey sausage
- Fat: 1/4 avocado

Tofu Scramble

- Fibrous carb: 2 cups onions, peppers & zucchini
- Protein: 3.5 oz tofu
- Fat: olive oil

LUNCH + DINNER BLUEPRINT

Fibrous veggies + fruits 1/2 of plate

Cruciferous veggies

broccoli

cabbage

cauliflower

Brussels sprouts

Leafy greens

leaf lettuces collard greens bok choy microgreens beet greens turnip greens mustard greens dandelion greens chard romaine kale spinach arugula

4 Starchy carbs 1/4 plate (optional)

Starchy veggies potatoes corn sweet potatoes butternut squash acorn squash parsnips peas turnips

Beans & legumes

black beans kidney beans chickpeas lentils

Whole grains

oats

millet

barley

quinoa brown rice wild rice

buckwheat amaranth sprouted

Fibrous fruits

blackberries blueberries strawberries avocaodo

raspberries

Other non-starchy veggies

cucumber celery tomatoes onions garlic leeks

asparagus mushrooms vellow squash green beans artichokes zucchini eggplant peppers radishes fennel scallions carrots beets

> Protein (3-5 oz) Palm size

Animal protein

salmon chicken sardines turkey mackerel lean beef tuna lamb bass bison shrimp liver scallops pork mussels cheese

Plant protein

tofu tempeh beans lentils nuts & nut butters quinoa peas edamame

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Fruit

apples pineapple mangos cherries peaches bananas grapes plums pears citrus fruits

wheat

Healthy fats the size of a dice

olives & olive oil nuts and seeds (and their oils) grass-fed butter ghee coconuts & coconut oil lard, tallow & duck fat oily fish avocado

LUNCH + DINNER BLUEPRINT

Salmon & Kale Dinner

- Fibrous carb: 2 cups kale sauteed w/garlic & olive oil
- Protein: 3-4 oz salmon
- Fat: olive oil
- Starchy carb: 1 small baked sweet potato

Chicken, Broccoli, & Quinoa Casserole

- Fibrous carb: 1 cup broccoli florets
- **Protein:** 3 oz shredded chicken
- Fat: 1/4 cup cashew cheese
- Starchy carb: 1/2 cup quinoa

Turkey Meatloaf w/Cauliflower Mash

- Fibrous carb: mashed cauliflower
- **Protein:** 4 oz ground turkey meatloaf
- Fat: grass fed butter (for cauli mash)
- Starchy carb: 1/2 cup peas

Vegan Burrito Bowls

- Fibrous carb: mixed greens topped with sauteed peppers & onions, chopped tomato
- Protein: 3/4 cup black beans
- Fat: 1/4 avocado, sliced
- **Starchy carb:** 1/2 cup brown rice

Beef Bolognese Over Zucchini Noodles

- Fibrous carb: 2 cups zucchini noodles & tomato sauce
- **Protein:** grass-fed ground beef
- Fat: 2 tbsp sliced olives

Tempeh Stir Fry

- Fibrous carb: onions, broccoli, peppers & carrots
- Protein: 3 oz tempeh
- Fat: 1 tbsp coconut oil
- Starchy carb: 1/2 cup rice