How to eat (healthy) fats



Here are some of our favorite, simple, ways to include healthy fats in our diets. For more recipe ideas, why not check out our cookbook, Gourmet Nutrition, or allrecipes.com? What foods have protein?

Our favorites

Nuts and seeds

Almonds

Brazil nuts

Cashews

Hazelnuts/filberts

Macadamia nuts

Pecans

Pine nuts

Pistachios

Walnuts

Chia seeds

Flax seeds

Hemp seeds

Pumpkin seeds

Fresh raw coconut

Note: many of these nuts and seeds are also available as oils or butters. Look for fresh, semi-perishable, cold-pressed and/or extravirgin oils and nut/seed butters. Avoid fats that are processed or hydrogenated.

Avocado

Olives

Oils & solid fats

Extra-virgin olive oil

Extra-virgin coconut oil or coconut

milk

Raw cacao butter

Animal fats

Butter (grass-fed if possible)

Fatty fish such as salmon, mackerel,

or herring

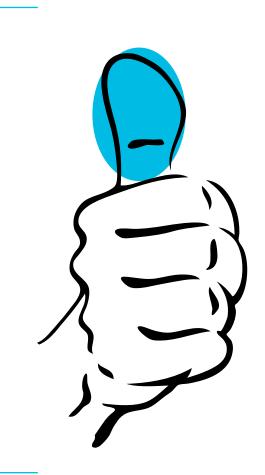
Grass-fed / pastured meats &

poultry

Higher-fat dairy from grass-fed /

pastured animals

Note: grass-fed, pastured, and/or wildcaught animals have a healthy, natural fat profile. Avoid fat from industrially raised / grain-fed animals if possible.



Portion size tip

Remember that fats are calorie-dense, so although they're good for us, eat them sparingly.

1 portion of fat = 1 thumb

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1. Salad dressing

Looking for a way to spruce up your colorful veggie salad? Look no further than a delicious salad dressing made with a fresh, cold-pressed oil.

Anatomy of an awesome salad dressing

1. Pick an acid

Lemon or lime juice

Apple cider vinegar

Balsamic vinegar

Rice vinegar

Red or white wine vinegar

Note: Feel free to combine these.

2. Pick an oil

Look for fresh, cold-pressed or extravirgin oils such as:

Almond oil

Apricot kernel oil

Avocado oil

Flax oil

Hemp oil

Olive oil

Pumpkin seed oil

Sesame seed oil

Walnut oil

Lemon- or orange-flavoured fish oil

3. Add options

Chopped fresh herbs or a pinch of dried herbs such as basil, dill, mint, oregano, sage, rosemary, thyme, etc.

Tomato juice or paste

Regular or Dijon mustard

Avocado

Chopped garlic, dehydrated onion flakes

Yogurt

Fresh or dried ginger

Miso

A few drops of stevia or some fruit purée (if you want sweetness)

Salt & pepper to taste

4. Combine

Use 2 to 3 parts oil to 1 part acid.

Add anything else you like.

Pour all ingredients into a jar with a lid and shake. Or pour into a blender and whiz for a few moments to emulsify.

Have fun experimenting with different flavours!



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2. Spruce up vegetables

Remember your steamed vegetables from a while back? This is the perfect occasion to fancy them up with a fresh, cold-pressed oil drizzled on top. Again, experiment with different types and different flavours.

Just one note: Many cold-pressed oils are temperature-sensitive, so put them on after you cook the veggies. Don't cook with them.

However, it's OK to cook with olive oil. Try tossing vegetables in some olive oil and salt, and roasting them in the oven or grilling them on the BBQ.



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3. Just add nuts & seeds

Chopped or ground nuts add flavour and texture to many dishes. For instance:

- toss some chopped cashews on top of a stir-fry
- add ground flax seeds or other ground or chopped nuts to oatmeal or home baked goods
- coat chicken, seafood, or fish in ground nuts or shredded unsweetened coconut before baking makes a crispy crust
- use ground nuts in place of cookie or bread crumb crusts
- add seeds or chopped nuts on top of salads



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4. Dip it good

Commercially prepared dips are often full of trans fats, sodium, artificial flavours, preservatives, and other junk you don't need. But it's easy to make your own healthy dip. Here are a few better options.

Easy guacamole

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

2 avocados2-3 green onions, finely choppedSplash of lime juice

Salt to taste

WHAT YOU'LL DO

Cut open avocados.
Scoop out the flesh.
Discard skin and pits.
Mash the avocado with
the chopped onions and
lime juice in a bowl. This
goes nicely with a few
spoonfuls of salsa over
Mexican-style chicken,
beef, seafood, or beans.
You can also throw some
chopped tomatoes in here
if you like.

Tomato hummus

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

2 tbsp (15 mL) extravirgin olive oil

1 small can of tomato paste

1 cup chickpeas

Small handful of fresh parsley, finely chopped

1 clove fresh garlic, minced

Salt and pepper, to taste Splash of lemon juice

WHAT YOU'LL DO

Use a fork or a food processor to mash all ingredients together until smooth. Serve with whole grain pita or fresh vegetables.

High-protein veggie dip

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

1 cup cottage cheese or strained Greek yogurt (such as Fage)

1/2 avocado

1 tbsp fresh cold-pressed nut or seed oil (e.g. flax or hemp seed oil)

1 green onion, finely chopped

1 small handful of fresh parsley, basil, dill, or oregano

WHAT YOU'LL DO

Use a fork or a food processor to mash all ingredients together until smooth. Serve with fresh vegetables.

