Choose Foods Low in Sodium



Choosing and preparing foods that are lower in salt and sodium might help prevent or lower high blood pressure.



Choose MORE often

Foods LOWER in sodium

- Grilled or baked chicken and turkey (with skin removed)
- Fresh fish or rinsed, canned fish such as tuna* or sardines
- Low-sodium canned foods
- Low-sodium or reduced-sodium cheeses
- Low-salt or salt-free chips, nuts, and pretzels
- Plain rice, noodles, or pasta
- Homemade, low-sodium, or reducedsodium soups
- Fresh, frozen, "no-salt-added," or rinsed canned vegetables
- Spices, herbs, and flavorings such as cilantro, parsley, garlic powder, onion powder, vinegar, and chili powder



Choose LESS often

Foods HIGHER in sodium

- Smoked and cured meats such as bacon, ham, sausage, hot dogs, bologna, fatback, ham hocks, scrapple, and liver pudding
- Canned fish
- Canned foods packed in broth or salt
- Most cheeses
- Salty chips, crackers, nuts, popcorn, and pretzels
- Quick-cooking rice and noodles
- Regular canned and instant soups
- Canned vegetables
- Condiments and seasonings such as soy sauce, monosodium glutamate (MSG), fish sauce, bouillon cubes, ketchup, and Cajun seasonings











^{*} Pregnant and nursing mothers: Talk to your healthcare provider to find out the types of fish you can eat that are lower in mercury.

Check food labels for sodium amount

Food labels tell you what you need to know about choosing foods that are lower in sodium.

Here's a food label for packaged noodle soup. Its Percent Daily Value* for sodium is 31 percent. This is high in sodium.

Choose products with the lowest Percent Daily Value for sodium. For more heart-healthy eating tips and recipes, visit healthyeating.nhlbi.nih.gov

Packaged Noodle Soup

Serving size	1/2 block (247g
Amount Per Serving Calories	160
	% Daily Value
Total Fat 7g	9%
Saturated Fat 3g	15%
Trans Fat 0g	
Cholesterol 0mg	0%
Sodium 710mg	31%
Total Carbohydrate 2	.3g 8%
Dietary Fiber 1g	4%
Total Sugars < 1g	
Includes 0g Add	ed Sugars 0%
Protein 4g	8%
Vitamin D 10mcg	50%
Calcium 20mg	2%
Iron 0mg	0%
Potassium 95mg	2%

←5 percent or less is low.
20 percent or more is high.











^{*} Percent Daily Values are based on a 2,000-calorie diet. Your Daily Values may be higher or lower depending on your calorie needs.