

Completing your 3-Day Food Journal

As part of your Dietitian visit, we ask that you keep a record of everything you eat and drink for 3 days. Having an accurate record of your intake and eating habits will assist the Dietitian in making specific dietary recommendations for you. A sample journal has been provided for you on page 3. **The journal may be completed at any time as long as it is prior to your Dietitian visit. Please bring pages 4-6 with you to your appointment.**

To complete your food journal, please follow the guidelines below.

- Select days that you will be making **typical** food choices and try *not* to change your eating habits. Holidays and special days may not represent usual eating behaviors.
- **Be honest.** The purpose of this journal is to help you and the Dietitian develop an awareness of your eating habits so that nutrition goals can be individualized.
- Try to include 2 weekdays (Monday-Friday) and 1 weekend day (Saturday/Sunday) for a total of 3 days (they do not have to be consecutive). If you are unable to record all 3 days, please do as many days as possible.
- Carry the food journal with you during the day so that items can be recorded *immediately* after they are eaten. Make sure to record the time an item/meal/snack was consumed.
- Record **EVERYTHING** you eat and drink. Please be as specific as possible.
 - List the type of food you ate including all condiments and extras (sauces, gravy, butter, ketchup, mayo, etc.)
 - Describe combination foods, such as what toppings came on the pizza or what was included in the sandwich.
 - Mention how the food was prepared (grilled, baked, fried, steamed, roasted, etc.)
 - List a brand name or restaurant name when possible.
- Include portion sizes for all items, estimating to the best of your ability. For help, please refer to the serving size guide provided on the next page.
- **Don't stress!** If you are not able to complete the food journal, still come to your appointment with the Dietitian.



Object	Hand Symbol	Equivalent	Foods
State State	Ø	Fist 1 Cup (baseball)	Rice, Pasta Fruit Veggies
6		Palm 1/2 cup (tennis ball)	Medium Fruit, Ice Cream
BICYCLE		Palm 3 ounces (deck of cards)	Meat Fish Poultry
		Handful 1 ounce (1 large egg)	Nuts Raisins
		2 Handfuls 1 ounce (2 large eggs)	Chips Popcorn Pretzels
		Thumb 1 ounce (ping pong ball)	Peanut Butter Hard Cheese
۲		Thumb Tip 1 teaspoon (marble)	Cooking Oil Mayonnaise, Butter Sugar



Sample Food Journal

Date: <u>12/1/2013</u>

CIRCLE ONE: Weekday

Weekend

Breakfast		Time of day: <u>8:00</u> am pm		
Food/Beverage items		Amount/Serving size		
Scrambled eggs with salt and pepper		2 eggs		
Whole wheat toast wi	ith margarine	1 slice/1 tablespoon		
Coffee with non-dairy	creamer	1 cup (8 oz)/ 2 tablespoons		
Minute Maid [®] Orange	e Juice	½ cup (4 oz)		
Lunch		Time of day: <u>12:30</u> am pm		
Food/Beverage items		Amount/Serving size		
	alian bread, turkey, American cheese,	6 inch sub		
lettuce, tomato, pickle	es, and mayonnaise.			
Baked potato chips (plain)	1 small bag		
Diet coke		16 oz		
Dinner		Time of day: <u>6:00</u> am/rm		
Food/Beverage items		Amount/Serving size		
Grilled chicken breast		3 oz (deck of cards)		
Baked potato (with skin) topped with sour cream		1 medium/2 tablespoons		
		2		
Lettuce salad – mixed greens with carrots and red cabbage		2 cups		
(Dole [®] brand), tomato, cucumber		2 to bloom o one		
Light ranch dressing (Kraft)		2 tablespoons		
Snacks				
	F (D)			
Time of day	Food/Beverage items	Amount/Serving size		
10.00	Yoplait [®] lite strawberry yogurt	6 oz		
<u>10:00</u> am/pm	Apple	1		
4:00 am/pm	Apple	1 small		
<u>4:00</u> am/pm	Pon & Jorny's Vanilla iso groom with	1/ cup		
9:00 am pm	Ben & Jerry's Vanilla ice cream with	½ cup		
	fresh raspberries	1 handful (1 oz)		
Estimated Daily Wate	r Intake: <u>64</u> ounces/oups			
	i intake. 04 Junices/Jups			



Food Journal Day 1

Date:		CIRCLE ONE:	Weekday	Weekend
Breakfast		Time of day:		_am/pm
Food/Beverage items		Amount/Serving	size	_ •
Lunch		Time of day:		_am/pm
Food/Beverage items		Amount/Serving	size	
Dinner		Time of day:		_am/pm
Food/Beverage items		Amount/Serving	size	
Snacks				
Time of day	Food/Beverage items	Amount/Serving	size	
am/pm am/pm am/pm				
Estimated Daily Wate	r Intake:ounces/cups	1		
Was this a typical of Comments:	day's intake? □ yes □ no			



Date: _____

Food Journal Day 2

CIRCLE ONE: Weekday Weekend

Breakfast		Time of day:	am/pm
Food/Beverage items		Amount/Serving size	
Lunch		Time of day:	am/pm
Food/Beverage items		Amount/Serving size	
Dinner		Time of day:	am/pm
Food/Beverage items		Amount/Serving size	
Snacks			
Time of day	Food/Beverage items	Amount/Serving size	
am/pm			
am/pm			
am/pm			
Estimated Daily Water	Intake:ounces/cups		
	-		

Comments:



Date: _____

Food Journal Day 3

CIRCLE ONE: Weekday Weekend

Breakfast		Time of day:	am/pm
Food/Beverage items		Amount/Serving size	
Lunch		Time of day:	am/pm
Food/Beverage items		Amount/Serving size	
Dinner		Time of day:	am/pm
Food/Beverage items		Amount/Serving size	
Snacks			
Time of day	Food/Beverage items	Amount/Serving size	
am/pm			
om/pm			
am/pm			
am/pm			
Estimated Daily Wate	r Intake:ounces/cups	I	
Was this a typical day's intake? yes no			
Comments:			