

LOW-FODMAP DIET

What Is the Low-FODMAP Diet?

- ▶ FODMAP refers to a group of five sugars found in certain foods. These sugars are lactose, fructose (in excess), fructans, galactans and polyols. Specifically, FODMAP stands for:
 - Fermentable
 - Oligosaccharides
 - Disaccharides
 - Monosaccharides
 - And
 - Polyols

- ▶ For some people, FODMAPs are poorly absorbed. When this happens, symptoms may include:
 - Bloating or swelling in your belly.
 - Gas.
 - Belly pain.
 - Nausea.
 - Diarrhea (loose stool).
 - Constipation (hard stool or trouble passing stool).



- ▶ The low-FODMAP diet has two phases, eliminating and then reintroducing FODMAP sugars. This helps you figure out which sugars cause symptoms at what amount.
- ▶ It is very important to work with your doctor or dietitian when thinking about following the low-FODMAP diet.
- ▶ Do not start the low-FODMAP diet until your doctor or dietitian tells you to and gives you detailed instructions on how to follow the diet the right way.



Please refer to the full list of high-FODMAP foods in the "Getting Started" section.



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Who Should Be on the Low-FODMAP Diet?

Certain health conditions can be helped by the low-FODMAP diet. These health issues include:

- Irritable bowel syndrome with diarrhea (IBS-D).
- Irritable bowel syndrome-mixed (both diarrhea and constipation; IBS-M).
- Functional diarrhea (chronic loose stool with no belly pain).
- Bloating or swelling of the stomach that won't go away.
- Non-Celiac gluten sensitivity.
- Celiac disease, if there are still GI symptoms while disease is under control, as stated by your doctor.
- Inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), if there are still GI symptoms while disease is under control, as stated by your doctor.
- Small intestine bacterial overgrowth (SIBO).

The low-FODMAP diet is not for everyone. If you are having general GI symptoms, other simpler steps, such as a better diet, more exercise and reduced stress, may help. **Be sure to talk to your doctor or dietitian before starting the low-FODMAP diet.**



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Starting the Low-FODMAP Diet

The low-FODMAP diet uses two phases to figure out which foods are causing your symptoms. Speak with a doctor or registered dietician before starting the low-FODMAP diet.

Phase one is an elimination phase when high-FODMAP foods are removed from the diet for a period of two to six weeks. **Phase two is a reintroduction phase** when high-FODMAP foods are brought back into the diet in a structured manner to help determine which of the five sugars trigger GI symptoms.

Phase One

- Remove all high-FODMAP foods from the diet; remove any foods you have true allergic reactions to as well, even if they are low in FODMAPs.
- This phase should only be done for a few weeks. Your doctor or dietitian can let you know exactly how long you should be on it.
- Common high-FODMAP foods are:
 - Some fruits, such as:
 - Apples.
 - Apricots.
 - Blackberries.
 - Cherries.
 - Mangoes.
 - Nectarines.
 - Pears.
 - Plums.
 - Watermelon.



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- Some veggies, such as:
 - o Artichokes.
 - o Asparagus.
 - o Beans.
 - o Cabbage.
 - o Cauliflower.
 - o Garlic.
 - o Lentils.
 - o Mushrooms.
 - o Onions.
 - o Sugar snap or snow peas.
- Some dairy, such as:
 - o Milk.
 - o Soft cheeses.
 - o Yogurt.
 - o Custard.
 - o Ice cream.
- Foods with wheat or rye.
- Some sweeteners, such as:
 - o High-fructose corn syrup.
 - o Honey.
- Foods that have sweeteners ending in “-ol” (many candies or gum), such as:
 - o Sorbitol.
 - o Mannitol.
 - o Xylitol.
 - o Maltitol.



Phase Two

- Working with your doctor or dietitian, you will be guided on how to bring certain foods from each of the five high-FODMAP sugar categories back into the diet and how much of them to eat.
- You will keep track of how you feel after eating certain foods to help you and your doctor or dietitian figure out which sugars are causing your symptoms and at what amounts.
- The results will not be the same for each person.
- From here, your doctor or dietitian will make a more permanent diet plan that is unique to you.

Low-FODMAP Diet – What to Know:

- ▶ The low-FODMAP diet can help some people with GI issues, like gas, bloating and diarrhea, by getting rid of certain foods that can cause those symptoms.
- ▶ You should work with your doctor and a dietitian before starting the low-FODMAP diet.
- ▶ The low-FODMAP diet is done in two phases: Phase one gets rid of all high-FODMAP foods, and phase two slowly adds them back in.



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Low-FODMAP Diet Resources

Starting the low-FODMAP diet can seem a bit overwhelming at first. **Work with your doctor and a skilled dietitian to make a plan that you can follow.** Doing so can calm any nerves about the diet and greatly help your health.

Below you will find tips on how to read food labels to help you better stick to the low-FODMAP diet. By having good information and a supportive health-care team, you can take on the low-FODMAP diet!

How to Read Food Labels for the Low-FODMAP Diet

- The easiest way to read food labels is to choose foods without labels! No label reading is needed when you choose unprocessed, low-FODMAP fruits, veggies, grains, nuts, seeds and sweeteners. All pure animal proteins (chicken, fish, turkey, eggs, beef, etc.) and fats (olive oil, canola oil, butter, etc.) are low-FODMAP.
- When choosing more processed foods, look for ones with only recognizable ingredients. The smaller the ingredients list, the better.
- Remember to bring any FODMAP lists given to you by your doctor and dietitian to the grocery store with you to make it easier to shop.



- Often-overlooked high-FODMAP ingredients in processed foods that you should try to avoid are:
 - Chicory root (inulin).
 - Honey.
 - Garlic (any form: salt, powder, etc.).
 - Onion (any form: salt, powder, etc.).
- Look for the words dairy, milk, wheat and soy in the “CONTAINS” section.
- If the product does not contain any of the above, there still might be other high-FODMAP foods in it, such as honey, apples, garlic or onions. Be sure to read the ingredients list carefully as well.
- Remember that something labeled “gluten-free” (no wheat, barley or rye) does not necessarily mean it is low-FODMAP. Be sure to look at the ingredients list for high-FODMAP foods besides wheat, barley or rye.
- **Note:** The statements “may contain” and “processed in a facility that also processes” do not mean the same thing as “CONTAINS” on a packaged product. Only worry about foods listed with the “CONTAINS” statement for the low-FODMAP diet (as well as all the ingredients listed).

Nutrition Facts	
Serving Size 100 g	
Amount Per Serving	
Calories 250	Calories from fat 10
% Daily Value*	
Total Fat 4%	4%
Saturated Fat 1.5%	4%
Trans Fat	
Cholesterol 50mg	28%
Sodium 150mg	15%
Total Carbohydrate 10g	3%
Dietary Fiber 5g	
Sugars 3g	
Protein 16%	
Vitamin A 1%	Vitamin C 3%
Calcium 2%	Iron 2%

*Percent Daily Values are based on a 2,000 calorie diet. Your daily values may be higher or lower depending on your calorie needs.

INGREDIENTS: WHEAT FLOUR, UNSWEETENED CHOCOLATE, CONDENSED MILK, EVAPORATED CANE JUICE, CORN STARCH, NATURAL FLAVORS, SALT, BAKING SODA, GUM GUM.
CONTAINS: EGGS, WHEAT, SOYBEANS, MILK

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