

Oils & Fat



Most oils come from plants, like olives and sunflower seeds.

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Name

Class _____

Date _

What are oils?

Oils are fats that are liquid at room temperature, like the vegetable oils used in cooking. Oils come from many different plants and from fish. Oils are NOT a food group, but they provide essential nutrients. Some commonly eaten oils include: canola oil, corn oil, cottonseed oil, olive oil, safflower oil, soybean oil, and sunflower oil. Some foods are naturally high in oils, like nuts, olives, and avocados.

How much is my allowance for oils?

A person's allowance for oils depends on age, sex, and level of physical activity. Daily allowances for oils are shown in the table below.

Daily Oils Recommendation		
	AGE	AMOUNT
CHILDREN	2-3 years old 4-8 years old	3 teaspoons 4 teaspoons
GIRLS	9-13 years old 14-18 years old	5 teaspoons 5 teaspoons

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major source of vitamin E in typical American diets.

• While consuming some oil is needed for health, oils contain about 120 calories per tablespoon. The amount of oil consumed needs to be limited to balance total calorie intake.

Stick to healthy fats like those found in fish and olive oil.

How are oils different from solid fats?

Solid fats are solid at room temperature, like beef fat, butter, and shortening. Solid fats mainly come from animal foods. Solid fats contain more saturated fats and/or trans fats than oils. Saturated fats and trans fats tend to raise "bad" (LDL) cholesterol levels in the blood, which in turn increases the risk for heart disease. To lower risk for heart disease, cut back on foods containing saturated fats and trans fats.





Oils & Fat



Name _____ Date _____

Oils are part of a healthy diet

Oils are NOT a food group, but they provide essential nutrients. Some commonly eaten oils include: canola oil, corn oil, cottonseed oil, olive oil, safflower oil, soybean oil, and sunflower oil. Some foods are naturally high in oils, like nuts, olives, and avocados.

Where's the Oil?

Circle the foods that contain oil, or are used to make oil.





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