Meals in Minutes

Busy families need to balance work, recreation, and other activities. They need to prepare simple, quick, and balanced meals easily and quickly.



What's for dinner?

Ideas to save time:

- 1. Plan meals.
- 2. Use package mixes.
- 3. Use what you may have on hand.
- 4. Use canned soups and broths.
- 5. Stir fry dishes.
- 6. Cook double the recipe and freeze leftovers.
- 7. Utilize leftovers.
- 8. Eat whole foods.



AIM FOR FITNESS...

- ▲ Aim for a healthy weight.
- ▲ Be physically active each day.

BUILD A HEALTHY BASE...

- Focus on fruits.
- Vary your veggies.
- Get your calcium-rich foods.
- Make 1/2 your grains whole.
- Go lean with protein.
- Keep food safe to eat.

CHOOSE SENSIBLY...

- Choose a diet that is low in saturated fat and cholesterol and moderate in total fat.
- Choose beverages and foods to moderate your intake of sugars.
- Choose and prepare foods with less salt.
- If you drink alcoholic beverages, do so in moderation.

Food Categories

ONE POT MEALS

Protein
beans
beef
cheese
chicken
crab
eggs
fish
leftovers
pork
shrimp
turkey

Vegetables canned fresh frozen

Starch bread noodles/pasta potatoes rice Sauces
broth
bar-b-que sauce
bottled hot sauce
gravies
oyster sauce
package mixes
soy sauce
soups



SANDWICHES

Protein
beef
cheese
chicken
cold cuts
crab
eggs
pork
shrimp

Vegetables
alfalfa
cucumbers
lettuce
tomatoes
watercress
zucchini

Bread
bagel
oat bran
pita bread
rye
tortillas
whole wheat
white

Condiments
ketchup
mayonnaise
mustard
pickles
relish

STIR FRY DISHES

Protein beef chicken crab pork shrimp Vegetables
broccoli
cabbage
carrots
chop suey mix
leafy greens
squash
tomatoes

Sauces
broth
oyster sauce
package mixes
soy sauce





Work Sheet

Example:

Protein	Vegetable	Starch	Other foods	DISH
tuna	peas and carrots	leftover rice	canned-cream of	CREAM TUNA
	P Comp control of		mushroom soup	
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Protein	Vegetable	Starch	Other foods	DISH
Protein	Vegetable	Starch	Other foods	DISH
Protein	Vegetable	Starch	Other foods	DISH
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Protein	Vegetable	Starch	Other foods	DISH
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LEFTOVERS: FRIED RICE

Number of servings: 9

Ingredients:

- 1 medium round onion
- 2 eggs
- 1 cup cooked meat
- 1 tablespoon oil
- 4 cups cooked rice
- 2 cups frozen peas OR mixed vegetables
- 2 teaspoons less sodium soy sauce

Directions:

- 1. CHOP onion. SET aside.
- 2. In a small bowl, BEAT eggs.
- 3. CUBE or SLICE meat.
- 4. In a large skillet or pan, HEAT oil. COOK onion and eggs.
- 5. ADD meat and COOK until hot.
- 6. ADD rice.
- 7. TOSS and STIR gently until rice is heated through.
- 8. ADD peas or mixed vegetables and soy sauce. MIX well.
- 9. HEAT until vegetables are cooked.

Variations:

Use cooked brown rice for a hearty flavor, and an even, brown color.

Use any leftover cooked meats.

Use any available or leftover bite-sized pieces of vegetables (fresh, canned, or frozen).

Use oyster sauce.

Stir-Fry: Vegetables w/ Luncheon Meat

Number of servings: 4

Ingredients:

1 small head cabbage

½ (12-ounce) can lite luncheon meat

1 package oriental seasoning mix

½ cup water

Directions:

- 1. SLICE cabbage. SET aside.
- 2. SLICE luncheon meat.
- 3. In a large pan, FRY luncheon meat for a few minutes until lightly BROWNED.
- 4. ADD cabbage and packaged seasoning mix with water, STIRRING frequently.
- 5. REMOVE from heat and SERVE.

Variations:

Turkey, ham, or sausages may be used.

Use any vegetables.

SANDWICH: TUNA SUNSHINE MIX

Yield: approximately 11/2 cups

Ingredients:

1 (5-ounce) can tuna in water

½ carrot

½ cup nonfat powdered milk

1/4 cup mayonnaise

pepper to taste

Optional: 1/4 cup round onion

¼ cup celery

2 tablespoons pickle relish

Directions:

- 1. DRAIN tuna.
- 2. GRATE carrot.
- 3. In a medium bowl, MIX tuna, carrot, powdered milk, mayonnaise, and pepper together.
- Optional: DICE onion and celery and ADD with relish to mixture.
- 5. COVER and REFRIGERATE until ready to serve.

Variations

Use as a sandwich spread, cracker topping, or as a vegetable dip.

ONE POT MEAL: SKILLET LASAGNA

Number of servings: 9

Ingredients:

- 1 cup cooked chicken OR turkey
- 1 (24-ounce) jar spaghetti sauce
- 1 (8-ounce) can tomato sauce

salt and pepper to taste

2 cups uncooked macaroni

- 2 ½ cups water
- 2 (10-ounce) boxes frozen spinach
- 1 cup shredded cheese

Directions:

- 1. DICE or SHRED chicken or turkey.
- 2. In a large skillet or large pot, COMBINE chicken or turkey, spaghetti sauce, tomato sauce, salt, pepper, macaroni, and water.
- 3. Bring to a BOIL, REDUCE HEAT, COVER and SIMMER 20-25 minutes or until macaroni is tender.
- 4. ADD spinach and COOK until thawed. MIX well.
- 5. SPRINKLE with cheese.

Variations:

Substitute tofu for meat (one block drained and mashed).

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