Portion Size Guidelines

Below are ways you can picture a serving or portion size using everyday objects. (Note: hands and finger sizes vary from person to person! These are **GUIDES** only).

Food Portion

Looks Like

Grains, Beans, and Starchy Vegetables Group

½ cup cooked rice or pasta	half of a baseball
½ cup cooked dry beans, lentils, or peas	cupcake wrapper full
½ cup potatoes, corn, green peas	level ice cream scoop
corn on the cob	4-inch corn cob



Vegetable

1 cup green salad	baseball or a fist
³ / ₄ cup tomato juice	small styrofoam cup
½ cup cooked broccoli	•
½ cup serving	
, ,	7 or 8 haby carrots



Fruit

½ cup of fresh fruit	custard cup
1 medium size fruit	fist or baseball
½ cup raisins	large egg



The Meat and Protein Foods

3 ounces cooked meat, fish, poultry	deck of cards
3 ounces cooked chicken	
1 ounce of cheese	4 stacked dice
2 tablespoons peanut butter	ping-pong ball
1 teaspoon peanut butter	fingertip
1 tablespoon peanut butter	fingertipthumb tip



Fats, Oils and Nuts

1 teaspoon butter, margarine	fingertip
2 tablespoons salad dressing	ping-pong ball



breast

Did you to know that...

- 1 cupped hand holds 2 tablespoons of liquid.
- 1 slice of bread is one ounce or 1 serving; some rolls or bagels weigh 3 to 5 ounces or more making them equal to 3 to 5 servings of bread



For copies or more information regarding this document, please contact the Missouri Diabetes Prevention and Control Program at 1-800-316-0935.

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