

Nutrition To Go

Non-Dairy Milk Sources

Many people cannot or do not eat dairy products (cow's milk, cheese, and yogurt). There are many alternatives to cow's milk. Here is some advice to help you choose the healthier non-dairy products.

Which Non-Dairy Milk is Best?

There is not a non-dairy milk that is "better" than another. Here are the keys to choosing the healthiest product for you:

- Look for products that say
 "fortified with calcium and vitamin D". Vitamin and mineral amounts will vary by brand.
- Use the Nutrition Facts label to find the exact amount of calcium and vitamin D.
- Many non-dairy milks have added sugar. This is sugar that is not found naturally in the milk. Try purchasing unsweetened types to avoid this added sugar. Reading the ingredients list can help you see if there is added sugar in your milk.

What is Calcium?

Calcium is an important mineral that helps build strong teeth and bones. Our bodies do not make calcium, so it is important to get it from the food we eat.

What is Vitamin D?

Vitamin D is a fat soluble vitamin. It is an important nutrient to help you build and maintain strong bones.



How Much Vitamin D and Calcium Do I Need?

	Age	Calcium mg	Vitamin D IU(mcg)
Females	51-70	1200	600(15)
	71+	1200	800(20)
Males	51-70 1000	600(15)	
Maioo	71+	1200	800(20)

*Vitamin D and Calcium are now listed on the new food label. Calcium is now listed as milligrams (mg) as well as percentage on the new Nutrition Facts label.

Type of Milk	Calcium (mg) per 8 ounces (1 cup)	Vitamin D (mcg) per 8 ounces (1 cup)	Average \$ per half gallon (may vary)	
Low-fat Cow's Milk	305	2.9	\$2.39	
Whole Cow's Milk	276	3.2	\$2.39	
Lactose free Milk	300	2.5	\$3.29	
Almond Milk*	451	2.4	\$3.99	
Soy Milk*	340	2.9	\$3.29	
Coconut Milk*	450	2.9	\$4.99	
Rice Milk*	283	2.4	\$4.20	
*Fortified and unsweetened				

Read the Facts—the Nutrition Facts, That Is!

In the near future, all Nutrition Facts labels will require the information for added sugars, calcium, and vitamin D to be printed on the back of the food product. Reading the Nutrition Facts label is very important to make sure you are getting enough of these vitamins and



