



University of Georgia Cooperative Extension Service

Oils and Solid Fats



Oils

Use Small Amounts

Vegetable oils, soft tub margarine, salad dressings, fish, nuts, avocados

- Monounsaturated oil and polyunsaturated oil: Heart-healthy oils that lowers your LDL (bad) cholesterol.
 - Contain vitamin E and essential fatty acids



Solid Fats

Use Very Little If Possible

Butter, stick margarine, shortening, animal fat, dairy fat

- Saturated fat: Fat that can raise your LDL (bad) cholesterol, increasing your risk for heart disease.
- *Trans* fat: Oils made solid through processing. Increases LDL (bad) cholesterol, lowers HDL (good) cholesterol.
 - Cholesterol: increases risk for heart disease

Daily Oil Allowance

Varies on calorie needs (depends on age, gender and physical activity level)



Women: 5 to 6 teaspoons Men: 6 to 7 teaspoons



Sources of Oils	Amount of Food	Amount of Oil
Oils	1 Tbsp.	3 tsp.
Margarine	1 Tbsp.	2 ½ tsp.
Mayonnaise	1 Tbsp.	$2 \frac{1}{2}$ tsp.
Mayo-type Salad Dressing	1 Tbsp.	1 tsp.
Italian Dressing	2 Tbsp.	2 tsp.
Thousand Island	2 Tbsp.	$2 \frac{1}{2}$ tsp.
Olives	4 large	½ tsp.
Avocado	½ medium	3 tsp.
Peanut butter	2 Tbsp.	4 tsp.
Peanuts	1 oz.	3 tsp.
Almonds	1 oz.	3 tsp.
Sunflower Seeds	1 oz.	3 tsp.

Tips for Choosing Healthy Oils and Fats:

- 1. Substitute vegetable oils for solid fats like butter, stick margarine, shortening, or lard.
- 2. Substitute nuts for meat or cheese as a snack or as part of a meal.
- 3. Chose fish rich in omega-3 fats, such as salmon, trout, and herring.
- 4. Limit products containing saturated fats, such as ground or processed meats, full-fat cheeses, cream, ice cream, and fried foods.
- 5. Limit foods containing partially hydrogenated vegetable oils, which contain *trans* fats, such as some commercially fried foods and some bakery goods.
- 6. Select baked, steamed, or broiled rather than fried foods.

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