



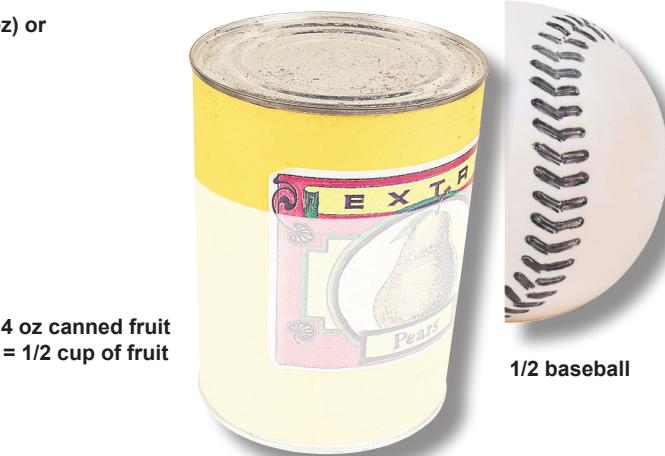
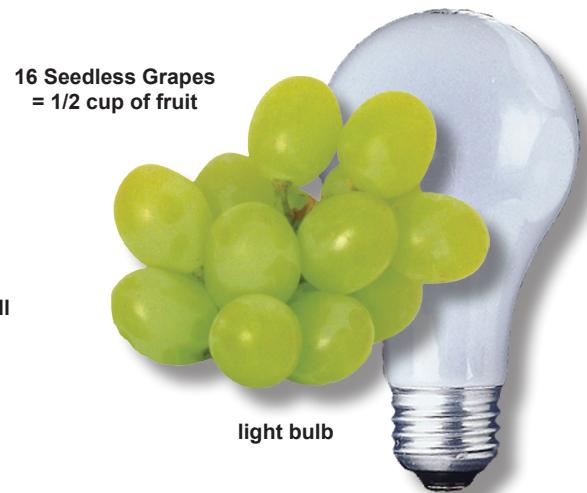
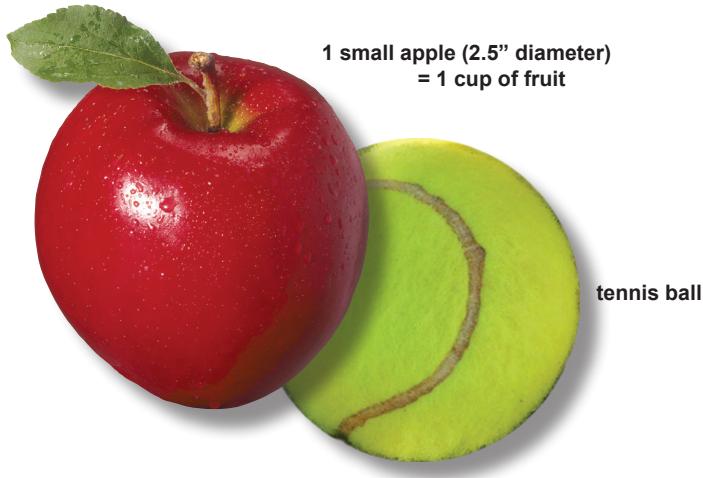
## **FRUIT: How Much Do I Need?**

Fruits are good for you. They are full of fiber, vitamins, minerals, and thousands of powerful things called antioxidants and phytochemicals. These things give a fruit its color, flavor, and smell. And, when you eat them, they also protect you from many different diseases (like heart disease and cancer). Make half your plate fruits and vegetables. The more color, the better. Try to eat at least 2 different colors of fruits each day.

**Adults need about 2 cups of fruit each day.  
Kids need about 1.5 cups of fruit each day.**

(See the next page for the amount of fruit that is recommended based on age and sex.)

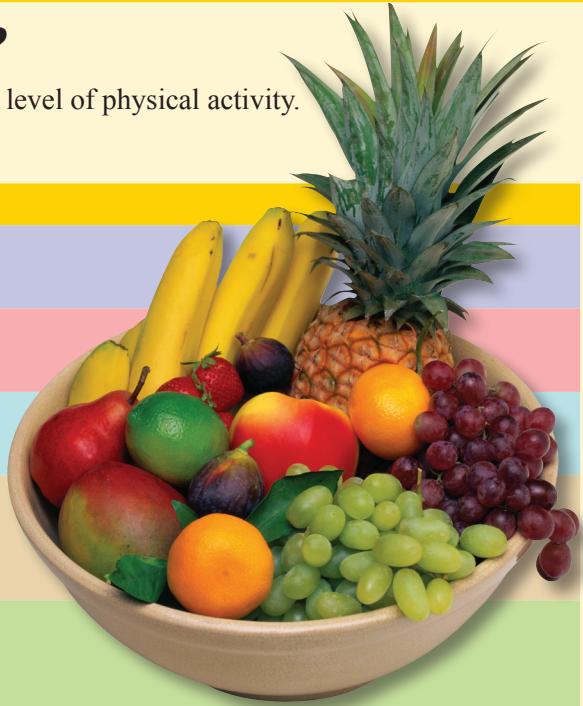
### **What does 1/2 to 1 cup of fruit look like?**



## How much fruit is needed daily?

The amount of fruit you need to eat depends on age, sex, and level of physical activity. Recommended daily amounts are shown in the table below.

Daily recommendation*		
<b>Children</b>	2-3 years old	1 cup
	4-8 years old	1 to 1 1/2 cups
<b>Girls</b>	9-13 years old	1 1/2 cups
	14-18 years old	1 1/2 cups
<b>Boys</b>	9-13 years old	1 1/2 cups
	14-18 years old	2 cups
<b>Women</b>	19-30 years old	1 1/2-2 cups
	31-50 years old	1 1/2 cups
	51+ years old	1 1/2 cups
<b>Men</b>	19-30 years old	2 cups
	31-50 years old	2 cups
	51+ years old	2 cups



\*These amounts are appropriate for individuals who get less than 30 minutes per day of moderate physical activity, beyond normal daily activities. Those who are more physically active may be able to consume more while staying within calorie needs.

## Storing Fruit

### Fresh Fruit

Store whole fresh fruit at room temperature until it becomes ripe. Once fresh fruit is ripe, store it in the refrigerator. Store cut fresh fruit in the refrigerator. Cut fresh fruit should not be left at room temperature for more than 2 hours.

### Frozen Fruit

- Store frozen fruit in the freezer.
- Only take out what you can use.
- Do not refreeze frozen fruit that has thawed out.

### Canned and Dried Fruit

Store canned and dried fruit in a cool, dry place.

### Special Storage Instructions

- Store bananas at room temperature so they don't turn brown.
- Store whole watermelon in a cool place (about 55° to 70°).
- Store most berries in the refrigerator.

### Freezing Fruit

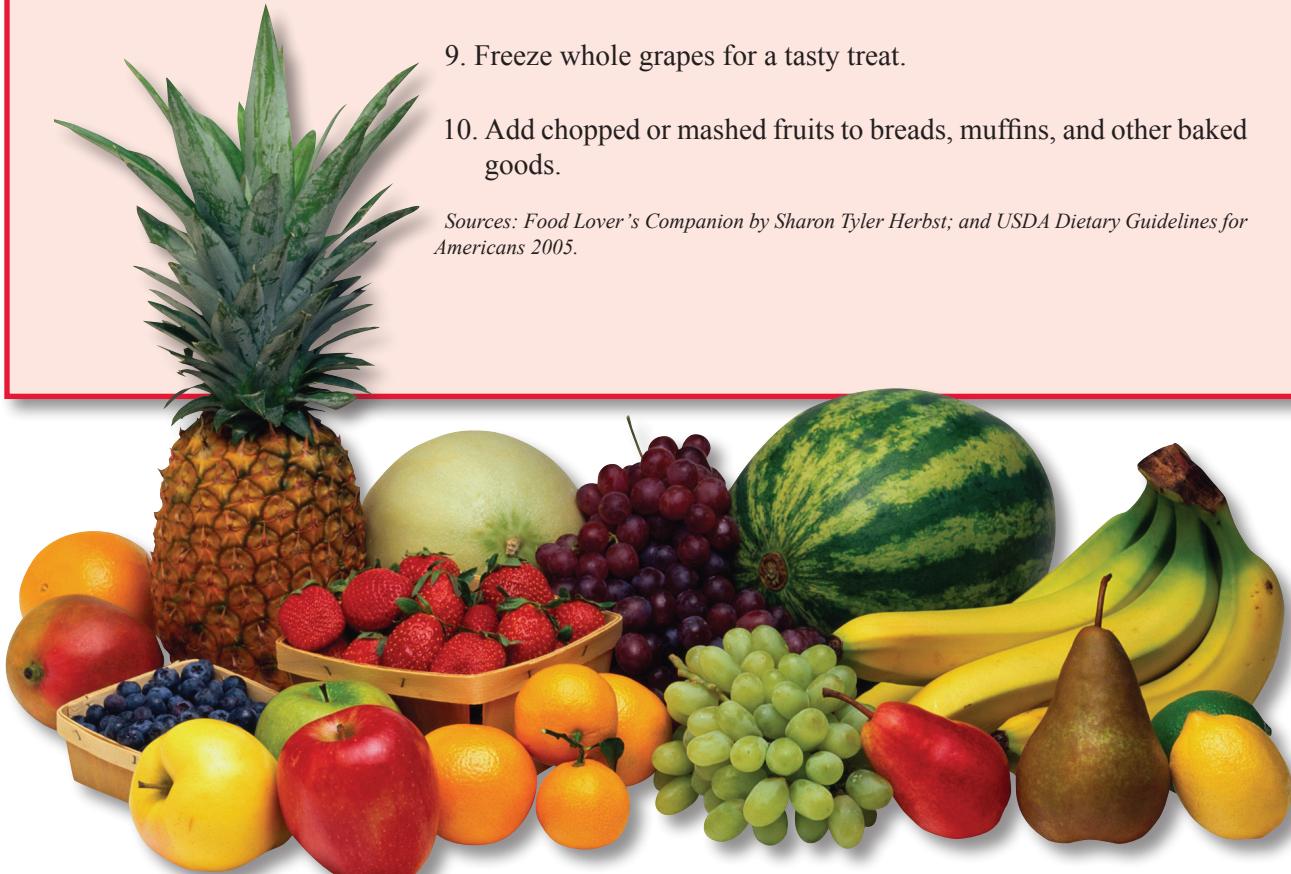
- If you have too much ripe fruit and not enough to eat, try fry freezing it.
- Peel and chop bananas, then freeze them for up to 2 months to be used in smoothies, banana bread, or muffins.
- Rinse berries and place them in a single layer on a plate or cookie sheet. Freeze them. When they are completely frozen, put them in an airtight plastic container and freeze them for up to 6 months.
- Rinse, peel, and chop pineapple, mangoes, papaya, peaches, or nectarines (remove the pits from peaches and nectarines). Place them in a single layer on a plate or cookie sheet. Freeze them. When they are completely frozen, put them in an airtight plastic container and freeze them for 6 months to a year.

## ***Top 10 ways to eat more FRUIT***

1. Put fruit in easy to reach places. Keep chopped, bite-size fruit pieces in a clear container in the fridge for an easy snack for you and the kids.
2. Put a bowl of whole fresh fruit on the table in your kitchen.
3. Top hot or cold cereal, yogurt, pancakes, waffles, and even salads with fresh, frozen, or dried cut-up fruit. Try raisins, dried apricots, dates, bananas, fresh or frozen strawberries, raspberries, blackberries, blueberries, and even apples or pears.
4. Drink a glass of 100% fruit juice instead of regular soda or pop or other sugary fruit drinks. Remember to limit juice to 1 cup per day or 1/2 cup for young children.
5. Eat fruit with healthy dips, like peanut butter or low-fat yogurt.
6. Make an easy fruit smoothie by blending a banana, a cup of frozen fruit, a cup of low-fat yogurt, and 1/4 cup of 100% fruit juice.
7. Bring a whole apple, banana, orange, peach, pear, a bag of berries, or dried fruit with you in your bag or purse for an easy and refreshing snack.
8. Make fruit popsicles by freezing orange juice or other 100% fruit juice in ice cube trays with sticks.

9. Freeze whole grapes for a tasty treat.
10. Add chopped or mashed fruits to breads, muffins, and other baked goods.

*Sources: Food Lover's Companion by Sharon Tyler Herbst; and USDA Dietary Guidelines for Americans 2005.*

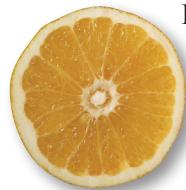


# **When should I buy my fruit?**

Below is a calendar of when fresh fruits are available. You will get the best value if you buy fruits when they are in season.

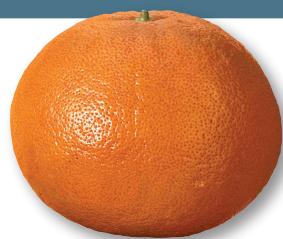
## **Winter**

Bananas



Grapefruit  
Lemons and Limes

Oranges



Pears

## **Spring**

Apricots



Bananas

Honeydew Melon



Limes

Mangos

Strawberries

Pineapple



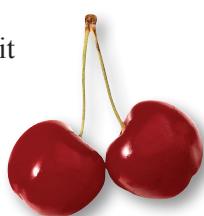
## **Summer**

Apricots



Bananas

Cantaloupe



Blackberries

Cherries

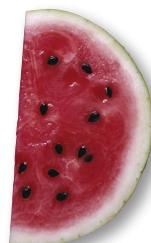
Honeydew Melon



Blueberries

Grapefruit

Kiwifruit



Grapes

Peaches and Nectarines

Raspberries

Plums

Strawberries

Watermelon

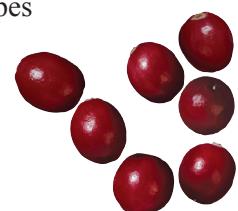
## **Fall**

Apples



Bananas

Cranberries



Pears

Persimmons



Pineapple

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