



Life is Sweet... with these Easy Sugar Swaps!

If you're cutting back on added sugars or calories, try these swaps to get the sweet taste you love:

Baking and Cooking

Unsweetened applesauce can substitute for some of the sugar in a recipe. You may need less oil, too—adjust the recipe as needed to get the taste and texture you like. Or try using a no-calorie sweetener suitable for cooking and baking.



Dressings and Sauces

Swap store-bought bottled salad dressings, ketchup, tomato sauce and barbecue sauce — which can have a lot of added sugars — for homemade versions so you can control the amount of sugar added to them.



Desserts and Sweets

Instead of indulging in a traditional sugar-based dessert, enjoy the natural sweetness of fruit. Fresh, frozen and canned (in its own juice or water) are all good choices. Try them baked, grilled, stewed or poached.



Snack Mix and Granola

Make your own, without all the added sugars. Combine your favorite nuts and seeds (unsalted or very lightly salted), raisins and dried fruits (unsweetened), rolled oats and whole-grain cereal (non-sugared/non-frosted) — and skip the candy!



Soda/Soft Drinks

Swap sugar-sweetened beverages for plain or sparkling water flavored with mint, citrus, cucumber or a splash of 100% fruit juice.



Tea and Coffee

Swap sugars (including honey and agave syrup) for a no-calorie sweetener. One packet adds about the same sweetness as two teaspoons of sugar — and typically saves you more than 25 calories.

NO-CALORIE SWEETENER



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The American Heart Association recommends cutting back on added sugars. Using low- and no-calorie sweeteners is one option that may help in an overall healthy diet. Foods and beverages containing low- and no-calorie sweeteners can be included in a healthy eating plan, as long as the calories they save are not added back as a reward or compensation. The FDA has determined that certain low- and no-calorie sweeteners, such as sucralose, are safe.

It's important to eat an overall healthy dietary pattern that **includes** a variety of fruits and vegetables, whole grains, beans and legumes, fish, skinless poultry, nuts and seeds, and fat-free/low-fat dairy products; and **limits** sodium, saturated fat, red meat and added sugars.