

# Portion Size

Portion awareness is very important. Over the past 50 years, portion sizes of food sold in restraints have grown 2 to 5 times in size. One of the key ways to adjust your lifestyle and maintain your weight is controlling your portion sizes. Even if you are not attempting to lose weight, you should be aware of portion size. Research has shown that Americans often underestimate how many calories they are consuming each day by as much as 25 percent. Learn these visual cues to estimate portions of your favorite foods.

Visual Cue	Approximate Portion Size
	<b>1 cup = size of a baseball or a woman's fist</b> Serving size for: green salad, frozen yogurt, medium piece of fruit, baked potato
	<b>½ cup (1 oz) = size of a rounded handful</b> Serving size for: fruit, cooked vegetables, pasta, rice, pretzels
	<b>¼ cup = size of a golf ball or large egg</b> Serving size for: dried fruit, like raisins
	<b>3 oz = size of a cassette tape</b> Serving size for: meat, poultry
	<b>3 oz = size of a checkbook</b> Serving size for: grilled fish
	<b>1-1/2 oz = size of 6 dice</b> Serving size for: cheese
	<b>1 tablespoon = size of a thumb tip</b> Serving size for: mayonnaise
	<b>1 teaspoon = size of 1 die</b> Serving size for: butter