Health & Nutrition Sciences

Hydration 101

Healthy Adults



Eat H₂0 Rich Foods

The food we eat is also part of the hydration equation and normally adds 20% - 30% to our total fluid intake.2

> Water content of food varies and can be as high as the following:







Eggs



85% Fruits & Vegetables





All Beverages Count

Caffeine-containing beverages do not lead to dehydration and count toward your daily fluid intake! 3,4

> Just be mindful of calories and limit caffeine to 400mg a day.5



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Dehydration, Know the Symptoms and Warning Signs

The effects of dehydration can start at 1-2% body weight loss. 1,2



Dry mouth, and/or cracked lips



Headache



Increased body temperature



Fatigue



Dizziness & lightheadedness



Loss of appetite

Let Your Urine Be the Judge

A fairly reliable method to tell if you're adequately hydrated is by inspecting your urine color and quantity.





If your urine is dark like apple juice, you need more fluids. If it's pale like lemonade, that's a sign of proper hydration. Similarly, a pattern of low urine output may also indicate dehydration.

Develop Daily Hydration Habits

Creating daily hydration habits and reminders will help you stay on track to optimal hydration!

- Jump start your day and replenish at the end of the day with a beverage.
- Set an alarm on your cell phone or calendar to remember to drink fluids.
- Keep a glass or reusable bottle nearby to provide easy access to fluids at all times.
- Remember to drink more fluids when physically active and when you are in hot and humid climates.
- Children and older adults tend to not meet their daily recommendations, so make sure everyone drinks enough fluid.^{6,7}

Remember: The amount of water that you take in should equal the amount you lose, not too much or too little.







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