## Time to Plan

As your training volume and intensity increases, your foods and fluids become more important for training quality and recovery.

To maintain a consistent healthy eating plan you need to:

- Plan, plan, plan
- Eat every 3-4 hours
- Aim to eat 3 of the 4 food groups at your core meals (breakfast, lunch, dinner)
- Plan to eat one or two snacks per day that contains 2 of the 4 food groups
- Drink water with every meal and carry a water bottle with you wherever you go.
- 1-2 hours before training, eat a high-carbohydrate, low fat and moderate protein snack. An example snack is a Kashi granola bar, low fat yogurt and 2 cups of water.
- During training aim for 3-4 large gulps of water every 15-20 minutes
- Within an hour after training eat a snack or meal with carbohydrate and protein for recovery. Remember to rehydrate with 2-3 cups of water too! An example recovery meal is a chicken and vegetable wrap.

This week: make a winning plate at lunch and dinner. See below.


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Using the plate above, try to draw one of your regular meals. What was on your plate? Try to draw actual serving sizes.

Eating every 3-4 hours is important for maintaining energy levels needed all day and for training. Try this timeline:

|  | Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Breakfast <br> $8: 00$ am |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Snack (optional) <br> 10 am |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Lunch <br> 1 pm |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Snack <br> 4 pm |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dinner <br> 6 pm |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Write in food eaten and time in each box <br> Check in: Are you foods the Right Choices, Right Amounts? <br> Remember water! |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Making healthy snacks for the week ahead can help with meal planning. Try these ideas and recipes:

- Stock up on easy to grab fruits, apples, bananas, oranges and pears for the week
- Pre cut veggie sticks and keep in fridge; peppers, broccoli, celery, fennel, carrots
- Pack snacks and lunch for the next day, place in a bag in the fridge to grab on the way out the door
- Set out parts of your breakfast the night before (I put all my blender ingredients in and stick the blender top in the freezer the night before)
- Stock your desk and car with water, granola bars, fruit, and other healthy snacks
- Cook a large batch of vegetarian chili, chicken breast, or quinoa salad for the week


## Try these sample snack recipes:

```
Fruity Energy Bar
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12 servings
2 cups oats
$\frac{1}{2}$ cute wheat germ
$\frac{1}{2}$ cup diced apricot
$\frac{1}{2}$ cup raisins
$\frac{1}{4}$ cup sunflower seeds
$\frac{1}{2}$ tsp cinnamon
1 pich salt
1 tbsp vegetable oil
$\frac{1}{2}$ cup brown sugar
$\frac{1}{2}$ cup liquid honey
1 egg, lightly beaten
$\frac{1}{2}$ tsp vanilla
221 calories, 4.8 g fat, 42 g carbohydrate, 6 g protein, 3.5 g fiber
Prep: Spray 9 -inch square baking pan with oil. Mix dry and wet ingredients separately, then together. Spread and pat into pan. Bake 350 degrees for 20 minutes. Cool and cut
Hint: Use your favorite dried fruit, figs, dates dried cranberries, cherries or blueberries in place of the apricots and raisins.

```
Fruity Smoothie:
1 serving
1/2 cup strawberries, unsweetened-frozen or fresh
3
1 small banana
4 cubes ice
Water
245 calories, 45 g carbohydrate, 11 g protein, 3.5 g fat, 4.5 g fiber
Prep time 5 minutes
Hint: pack in a thermos and take with you.
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For more quick healthy recipe ideas check out http://www.sportmedbc.com/recipesAll.php

## References:

Caron M., Gibson, J., Walking for Fitness: Fueling the Body. 78-80.

