



Gluten Intolerance

Did You Know?

Baking your own grain products is an easy way to avoid exposure to gluten.

Use alternative flour sources such as:

- Amaranth
- Buckwheat flour
- Flax seed meal
- Millet Soy flour
- Nut flours
(almond meal)
- Quinoa
- Tapioca flour
- Xanthan gum
(for consistency)



Gluten is the general name for a protein found in wheat, barley and rye. Gluten containing foods can be part of a healthful, balanced diet; however, some people may suffer from conditions, which may require elimination of gluten from the diet. There are three common medical conditions associated with gluten that susceptible individuals may encounter: celiac disease, gluten sensitivity, and gluten intolerance.

- With a genetic susceptibility, **celiac disease** results from eating gluten, which triggers an immune response to attack the lining of the small intestine. Right now, the only effective treatment for celiac disease is a lifelong, gluten-free diet.
- **Non-celiac gluten sensitivity** is used to describe people with non-specific symptoms such as nausea, abdominal cramps, or diarrhea after eating gluten. Gluten sensitivity also involves an immune reaction to gluten, but it does not involve the production of damaging antibodies that cause intestinal damage.
- **Gluten intolerance** is commonly used to describe individuals who have symptoms after eating gluten, and who may or may not have celiac disease. Similar to gluten sensitivity, these symptoms may include nausea, abdominal cramps, or diarrhea.

If you experience these symptoms when consuming gluten, you should consult a doctor before eliminating gluten from your diet. There may be an underlying medical condition, for which a gluten-free diet is not the treatment.

Gluten-Containing Grains

Wheat, barley, and rye all naturally contain gluten. Oats do not contain gluten, but may come into contact with gluten when processed in a facility that processes a variety of grain products.

Hidden Sources of Gluten

Sauces, gravies, dressings, granola bars, imitation meat products, malt vinegar, starch, spices (cinnamon, basil), couscous, beer and cereals are all foods that may contain hidden sources of gluten. Also, some vitamin/mineral supplements, medications, and cosmetics may contain gluten.

Living Gluten-Free, Nutritiously

Since gluten-free diets tend to lack many nutrients, such as fiber, iron, calcium and B vitamins, it is important to find and regularly consume food sources that provide these nutrients.

Nutrient	Gluten-Free Food
Fiber	Nuts and Seeds Beans—Black, pinto, garbanzo Lentils Fruits & veggies
Iron	Legumes—Lentils and beans Meat—Red meat and poultry Seafood—Fish and oysters Fortified, gluten-free cereals Dark, leafy greens—Spinach
Calcium	Low-fat dairy products—Skim milk Dark green vegetable—Kale, broccoli Fortified orange juice or soy milk
B Vitamins Thiamin Riboflavin Niacin B6 Folate B12	Thiamin (B1)—Pork, peas, fortified cereals Riboflavin (B2)—Dairy products, salmon, chicken, eggs, leafy greens Niacin (B3)—Peanut butter, lean beef, poultry, fish, avocado, beans. B6—Baked potato, banana, nuts, pork, fish, chicken Folate—Orange juice, spinach, broccoli, peanuts, avocado B12—Animal products (milk, eggs, poultry, fish, meat)

Helpful Tips For Avoiding Gluten:

- Look for the “Certified Gluten-Free” symbol and read ingredient lists on nutrition labels to avoid hidden sources of gluten.



- Label containers and utensils as 'gluten-free' to avoid cross-contamination.
- Pay attention to the amount of other ingredients in processed foods, as many gluten-free foods tend to contain more sodium, fat and/or sugar.

Adequately managing celiac disease, gluten sensitivity, or gluten intolerance does not have to be an impossible task. Becoming familiar with hidden sources of gluten, gluten substitutes, and gluten-free recipes can help you limit or avoid your exposure to gluten and still enjoy a wide variety of foods.