Quick & Easy Meals for Athletes

Being an athlete can require a lot of time running from practice to work to trainings—not leaving much time for meal planning, shopping or cooking. By keeping healthy and fresh ingredients on hand, nutritious meals and snacks can be quickly prepared and at your fingertips in moments!

Try the following recipes which are loaded with carbohydrates and protein, and are quick enough to prepare that they should fit into even the busiest schedule.

500 Calories

**BBQ Chicken Sandwich**
6 oz. grilled chicken breast
1 slice cheese
2 tablespoons BBQ sauce
2 slices whole-wheat bread

**Power-Packed Smoothie**
1 banana and 1 cup of desired fruit (fresh or frozen)
1 cup low-fat vanilla yogurt
1 cup low-fat milk, and ice
2 tablespoons of your favorite nut butter

Blend to desired consistency.

**Turkey-Avo Wrap**
4 slices turkey lunch meat
½ avocado (option to mash it up with lemon juice and salt)
Lettuce
Whole-grain tortilla

**Super Simple Nachos**
25 baked tortilla chips
½ cup refried black beans
Salsa and/or green chilies
1/3 cup shredded cheese

Place chips on a microwave-safe plate or baking sheet. Add toppings and microwave or bake until cheese melts.

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**Easy Ways to Add Calories to Your Day**

1) Reach for whole grains for added fiber and nutrients.

2) Choose full fat dairy, dressings and snacks.

3) Add nut butters to protein shakes and smoothies.

4) Toss some grains into your salads. Quinoa, couscous, and barley are some tasty additions!

5) Include more nuts and seeds in your diet. They can be eaten roasted or raw, and added to trail mix, mixed into baked goods, or used as a topping for pasta dishes and salads.

6) Snack intentionally throughout the day on foods that you may not be getting enough of at meals—like vegetables or dairy foods.
750 Calories

**Quick Chicken Parmesan**
6 oz. pre-cooked grilled chicken breast
¼ cup shredded mozzarella cheese
2 cups cooked noodles
½ cup marinara sauce
Side salad

Sprinkle cheese over chicken and broil until cheese melts. Serve chicken over noodles and sauce.

**Stir-Fry**
1 serving of cooked brown rice
4 ounces of cooked chicken, steak, or tofu
2 cups of mixed vegetables (fresh or frozen)
3 tablespoons of teriyaki sauce
Side salad with an Asian dressing

After the chicken, steak or tofu has been cooked, add the fresh or frozen vegetables to your pan and sauté for a few minutes until tender or thawed. Add sauce to meat and veggie mixture. Serve on rice.

1000 Calories

**The Perfect Pizza**
1 personal size whole-wheat crust
½ cup pizza sauce
2/3 cup shredded cheese
Vegetables
14 slices pepperoni
Fruit salad on the side

**Turkey Burgers**
1 whole wheat bun
¼ lb ground turkey mixed with seasonings of choice and 1 tablespoon of sour cream
Toppings of choice
1 sweet potato, cut and seasoned with salt and pepper

Grill or broil patty until desired doneness and top with a slice of cheese and toppings of choice. Bake the sweet potato fries on a greased baking sheet as a side!