Color Your Plate YOUR Way!

To keep your body healthy, your body needs a variety of essential nutrients. How do you know if you are getting enough of these nutrients from what you eat?

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Start by counting the colors in your meals — then add more! Colors count when they come from nature; artificial colors simply don't count. Each day, try to include plenty of color in your meals and snacks — such as red, yellow, orange, green, blue, purple, brown, beige and white. This maximizes the nutrition you get from fruits and vegetables.

Red (antioxidants) — protects blood vessels and potentially improves memory. Ex: tomatoes, strawberries, red apples, cherries, radishes and kidney beans.

Orange / Yellow (carotenoids)

— provides anti-cancer and antioxidant benefits, improves vision and heart health. Ex: oranges, carrots, yellow or orange bell pepper, sweet potatoes, apricots, pumpkins, squash and grains.

Green (phytochemicals) — reduces inflammation. Ex:

spinach and dark green leafy greens, broccoli, green cabbage, asparagus, peas, kiwi, green bell pepper and green beans.

Blue (anti-aging properties) — protects against damage to blood vessels, cartilage, tendons and ligaments; helps with memory function and urinary tract health. Ex: eggplant, blueberries, plums, red grapes and blackberries.

