Maneuvering Through Your Grocery Store

Maneuvering through a grocery store can be challenging, especially when trying to find the best foods to support a healthy diet. It may be difficult to know where to start and which aisles to avoid. Let this map take the guesswork out of your next shopping trip and ensure you are making the best decisions for your health.

Welcome

Checkout

Meat

Seafood

Eggs

Dairy

Deli

Produce

Frozen Desserts

Frozen Food

Frozen Meals/Pizza

Non-Edible Items

Bread

Snacks/Chips

Cereal/ Juice

Baking Items

Canned Goods

Prepared Meals

Pasta/Rice

Bakery

Healthcare & Beauty Items

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

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**Grocery Store Map Legend**

If you see the Healthy Eating icon then you are on the right track, and the recommended foods will be able to provide essential nutrition throughout your weight loss process.

The red ‘x’ means this aisle or area contains food that will provide little to no significant nutritional value for you, and in some cases may be detrimental to your healing process.

**Numbered Aisles & Areas**

As a general rule, you want to shop the perimeter of a grocery store to find the most fresh and nutrient-rich foods. The center aisles are usually considered the ‘danger zone,’ however certain aisles do contain healthy options. The numbered guide helps to identify those items, so that you know which ones to grab and which ones to leave on the shelf.

1. If you can’t give up your pasta and rice, look for whole grain or brown rice alternatives.

2. While not the ideal choice, if fresh or frozen is not an option, then canned items with low sodium content are recommended.

3. Look for oatmeal, oat or bran cereals, and 100% juice. Avoid products with added sugar.

4. Pick up a container of nuts for a healthy snack. Any type of nut can supply the good fats you need.

5. Another great way to introduce a whole grain option. Think whole wheat or whole grain bread.

6. If you can’t find the fresh produce you want, then frozen fruits and vegetables are a good alternative.

7. Getting vitamins directly from food is always the best option, but consult your health care provider if you think a vitamin or mineral supplement might be necessary.

**Basic Tips:**

- Never go to the grocery store hungry.
- Go to the store equipped with a grocery list and menus in mind.
- Plan your meals and food options for your specific weight loss needs.
- Read labels. Evaluate nutrition facts and ingredients and choose healthy substitutes.
- Arrange your shopping list by store aisles or food categories.
- At the checkout, ensure the majority of your cart is from the perimeter of the store.