

FOOD VAREITY CHECKLIST

Score one point for each food category you have eaten in one day (use the boxes on the right side to add up your score). Count each food category only once.

FRUIT	
Stone fruit (e.g. apricot, avocado, cherries, nectarine, olive, peach, plum, prune)	
Citrus (e.g. orange, lemon)	
Apples	
Bananas	
Berries (e.g. raspberry, strawberry)	
Grapes (including raisins, sultanas)	
Melons (e.g. honeydew, rockmelon, watermelon)	
Pears, nashi	
Tropical fruit (e.g. guava, jackfruit, lychee, mango, papaya,pineapple, starfruit)	
Date, kiwifruit, passionfruit	
VEGETABLES	
Root (e.g. carrots, sweet potatoes, potatoes, bamboo shoots, beetroot, ginger, parsnip, radish, water chestnut)	
Leafy greens (e.g. spinach, cabbage, brussel sprouts, silverbeet)	
Marrow-like (e.g. cucumber, eggplant, marrow, pumpkin,squash, swede, turnip, zucchini)	
Flowers (e.g. broccoli, cauliflower, endive, chicory, lettuce)	
Stalks (e.g. celery)	
Onion (e.g. spring onion, garlic leek)	



Peppers (e.g. capsicum)	
Tomatoes, okra	
LEGUMES AND PULSES	
Beans (e.g. green beans, snow peas, snap beans, dried peas)	
Adzuki, baked beans, haricot, black beans, black eyed beans, borlotti beans, cannelini beans, chickpeas, kidney beans,	
lentils, lima beans, lupins, mung beans (sprouts), pinto beans, soya beans (sprouts), soya milk, bean curd	
GRAINS AND CEREALS	
Wheat (including ready-to-eat cereals such as Weetbix, bran	
flakes, & wholemeal/white bread)	
Rye (includes ready-to-eat products)	
Barley (includes ready-to-eat products)	
Oats (includes ready-to-eat products)	
Rice (includes ready-to-eat products)	
Corn (includes ready-to-eat products)	
All other grains and cereals (e.g. buckwheat, millet, quinoa,	
sago, semolina, tapioca, triticale)	
MEAT	
Pork (including ham and bacon)	
Lamb, beef, veal	
Poultry (e.g. chicken, turkey, duck)	
Game (e.g. quail, wild duck, pigeon)	
Game (e.g. kangaroo, rabbit, venison)	
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Liver, brain, all other organ meats	
SEAFOOD	
Shellfish and molluscs (e.g. mussels, squid, oysters, scallops)	
Crustaceans (e.g. prawns, lobster, crabs, shrimps)	
Fatty Fish (e.g. anchovies, tuna, salmon, sardines, herring,	
mackerel, kipper, pilchards)	
Fish (saltwater)	
Fish (freshwater)	
Roe (caviar)	
Dairy	
Milk, yoghurt (without live culture), ice cream, cheese	
Live Cultures (yoghurt with live culture e.g. acidophilus,	
bifidobacteria)	
Eggs	
All varieties	
Fats	
Oil: olive, rice bran, canola	
Hard/soft spreads	
Herbs and Spices	
Use regularly	
Nuts and Seeds	



Almond, brazil, cashew, chestnut, coconut, hazelnut,		
peanuts, peanut butter, pecan, pine nut, pistachio, pumpkin		
seed, sesame seed, tahini, hummus, sunflower seed, walnut		
Fermented Foods		
Miso, tempeh, soya sauce		
Sauerkraut		
All other varieties		
All other varieties		
Beverages		
Non-alcoholic (e.g. tea, coffee, cocoa)		
Alcoholic		
Other		
Sugar, syrup, honey, confectionary, jam, marmalade,		
chocolate, soft drinks		
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Yeast (e.g. vegemite, marmite, Brewers yeast)		
Water, including mineral and spring water		
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Total amount of different foods		



Check your score of food variety and dietary adequacy using this chart.

Total food variety score	Dietary adequacy
More than 30 a day	Excellent
25-29 per day	Very Good
20-24 per day	Good
<20 per day	Fair
<10 per day	Poor

Reference: Savige, G.S., Hau-Hage, B. and Wahlqvist, M.L. 1997. Food Variety as NutritionalTherapy. Current Therapeutics, 38 (March): p.62.