

The University of Georgia

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Building Bones to Last a Lifetime

Prevent bone loss with the right food and exercise.

Learning for Life

The University of Georgia Cooperative Extension

Contact your local office at



- Consume dairy products and other foods rich in calcium and Vitamin D every day.
- Take calcium and Vitamin D supplements if you cannot get enough from food.
- Eat enough protein and 5 or more fruits and vegetables per day for magnesium, potassium, Vitamin K and Vitamin C.
- Do weight-bearing exercise like walking, jogging, tennis, basketball, weight training or soccer.



Calcium, Dairy Group and Vitamin D Recommendations Vitamin D Calcium **Dairy Group** Age milligrams I.U. Servings 2-2 1/2 cups 1-3 years **700** 600 600 2-2 1/2 cups 4-8 years 1,000 **9-18 years** 1,300 600 3 cups 19-70 year old men 600 1,000 3 cups **19-70 old women** 600 1,200 3 cups 71 and up 1,200 800 3 cups

What Equals a Cup Serving?

- 1 cup milk, yogurt, pudding or buttermilk
- 1 1/2 ounces hard cheese or 1/3 cup shredded cheese or 2 ounces American cheese
- 2 cups cottage cheese
- 1/2 cup ricotta cheese



Other Sources of Calcium (Check Food Labels)

- Fortified soy milk, juices, rice milk, breakfast cereals
- Cooked dried beans and peas
- Turnip greens
- Canned salmon with bones
- Almonds

To preserve bone, do not smoke, drink alcohol excessively or diet too strictly.

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