Sodium: Look at the Label

Over 75% of sodium you eat comes from packaged foods and foods you eat in restaurants.

Use the Nutrition Facts Label!

- High levels of sodium may seem "hidden" in packaged food, particularly when a food doesn't "taste" salty — but sodium is not hidden on the Nutrition Facts Label!
- Check the Percent Daily Value (%DV) for sodium in the food you are considering.* You can see at a glance if the sodium in one serving of food contributes a little — or a lot — to the recommended amount you should eat in a day.

Use the %DV on the Nutrition Facts Label to compare food products, and remember: 5% DV or less of sodium is LOW, and 20% DV or more of sodium is HIGH. Also, ask to see the nutrition information in restaurants and choose a lower sodium option.



Sodium and Health

Sodium has been linked to high blood pressure...and high blood pressure can increase your risk of heart disease, kidney disease and stroke. But using the Nutrition Facts Label and eating less sodium can often help lower blood pressure — which can, in turn, help you reduce your risk of these diseases!

^{*} The %DV is based on 100% of the recommended amount of sodium, which is less than 2400 milligrams (mg) per day.