Restaurant Survival Guide

Let's face it, eating out is a big challenge to your diet. Besides the enormous portion sizes, there's the problem of figuring out which menu items fit into your daily calorie allowance. And even if you find something that looks promising, its nutrient composition usually leaves a lot to be desired, which means you'll be less satisfied and hungry again sooner. Check the guidelines here and the specific menu suggestions below to help you eat out at

CALORIE GUIDELINES FOR EATING OUT WHILE LOSING WEIGHT				
	1,200-Calorie Menu	1,600-Calorie Menu	1,800-Calorie Menu	
Breakfast	250	400	400	
Mid-morning snack	150	150	150	
Lunch	300	350	450	
Mid-afternoon snack	100	100	100	
Dinner	300	400	500	
Dessert and free choice	100	200	200	

restaurants and still keep calories down. It also helps to check out the websites of places you visit, but keep in mind that some restaurants may serve bigger portions than indicated by their calorie listings.

Lunch and Dinner 300 Calories

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RESTAURANT	OPTIONS	
Applebee's	Cajun Lime Tilapia.	
	Grilled Chili-Lime Chicken Salad.	
Au Bon Pain	Chef Salad with fat-free raspberry vinaigrette.	
	Half a Roast Beef Caesar sandwich with small broth-and-vegetable soup such as Garden Vegetable.	
Burger King	Chili. Bring a piece of fruit to go with it.	
	Whopper Jr. Low Carb or Chicken Whopper Low Carb Side Salad with fat-free ranch or light Italian dressing. Bring a piece of <i>good</i> fruit.	
Denny's	Grilled Chicken Salad with fat-free dressing.	
Domino's Pizza	1 slice Crunchy Thin Crust pizza with regular (not extra) cheese and vegetable toppings and Garden Fresh Salad with light Italian dressing.	
KFC	Roasted BLT Salad with light or nonfat dressing (no croutons). Bring an apple.	
McDonald's	Chicken Caesar Salad with Newman's Own Low Fat Balsamic dressing. Bring an apple.	
	4 Chicken Nuggets with one-half container BBQ or sweet-and-sour sauce and Side Salad with Newman's Own Low Fat Balsamic dressing. Bring a small apple.	
P.F. Chang's China Bistro	Half-order of Cantonese scallops with half-order of Buddha's Feast, Steamed.	
	Half-order of Cantonese Shrimp plus half-order Sichuan-Style Asparagus.	

Restaurant Survival Guide (continued)

Ruby Tuesday	Petite (7-ounce) Sirloin with side of Premium Baby Green Beans.
	White Bean Chicken Chili with side Caesar Salad (ask to substitute light ranch for Caesar dressing).
Starbucks	Fiesta Salad.
	Vegetable vinaigrette salad.
Subway	Ham or roasted chicken breast salad with fat-free dressing and side of minestrone.
	Chili soup.
	6" chicken breast or ham sandwich on whole wheat (no mayo or cheese but all the vegetables you like).
Taco Bell	Crunchy Taco and order of Pintos 'n Cheese.
Uno Chicago Grill	Grilled Chicken with Mango Salsa, side of steamed seasonal vegetables or broccoli and house salad with fat-free vinaigrette or low-fat blueberry pomegranate vinaigrette and breadstick.
	Chicken Caesar Salad with fat-free vinaigrette or low-fat blueberry pomegranate vinaigrette.
Wendy's	Small (8 ounce) Chili and side salad with fat-free French-style dressing.
	Jr. Hamburger without cheese (discard the bun) and side salad with fat-free French-style dressing. Bring an apple.

Lunch and Dinner 400 Calories

RESTAURANT	OPTIONS
Applebee's	Confetti Chicken.
	Steak and Portobellos with side salad and fat-free dressing.
Au Bon Pain	Chicken Caesar sandwich and spinach Sonoma salad with fat-free raspberry vinaigrette or discard the croutons and add light ranch dressing.
	Half a Roast Beef Caesar sandwich with small helping of any non-cream soup.
Burger King	Whopper Jr. Low-Carb and side garden salad with nonfat ranch or light Italian dressing, half a small fries (discard other half or give to a friend). Bring along a small piece of <i>good</i> fruit.
	4 Chicken Tenders with BBQ sauce and side garden salad with dressing. Bring a piece of <i>good</i> fruit.
Cheesecake Factory	Half a "weight management salad." Bring an apple.
Denny's	Chef salad with fat-free dressing.
	Grilled chicken dinner with vegetable blend and side of fruit medley.