

## fibre counter

diet and lifestyle in the management of constipation



## how much fibre do you eat?

Use the fibre counter to add up how much fibre you eat.

1

About how many **pieces or slices per day** do you eat of the following types of bread, rolls, or chapatis? (Choose one answer on each line)

Breads & Rolls	0	Less than 1 a day	1-2 /day	3-4 /day	5+
White bread or rolls	0	1	4	9	13

Breads & Rolls	0	Less than 1 a day	1-2 /day	3-4 /day	5+
Brown or granary bread or rolls	0	2	7	15	22

Breads & Rolls	0	Less than 1 a day	1-2 /day	3-4 /day	5+
Wholemeal bread or rolls	0	3	8	18	26

Total	Bread

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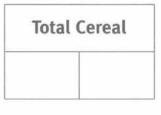
2

About how many **servings per week** do you eat of the following types of breakfast cereal or porridge? (Choose one answer on each line)

Breakfast Cereals	0	Less than 1 a week	1-2 /week	3-5 /week	6+
<b>Sugared type:</b> Frosties, Coco Pops, Ricicles, Sugar Puffs <b>Rice or corn type:</b> Corn Flakes, Rice Crispies, Special K	0	0	0	1	2

Breakfast Cereals	0	Less than 1 a week		3-5 /week	6+
<b>Porridge</b> or Ready Brek <b>Wheat type:</b> Shredded Wheat, Start, Weetabix, Fruit'n Fibre, Puffed Wheat <b>Muesli type:</b> Alpen, Jordan's	0	1	2	5	7

Breakfast Cereals	0	Less than 1 a week		3-5 /week	6+
<b>Bran type:</b> All-Bran, Bran Flakes, Country Bran	0	2	5	12	18



## 3

About how many servings per week do you eat of the following foods? (Choose one answer on each line)

Vegetable foods	0	Less than 1 a week	1-2 / week	3-5 / week	6-7 / week	8-11 / week	12+
Pasta or rice	0	0	1	3	4	6	8

Vegetable foods	0	Less than 1 a week	1-2 / week	3-5 / week	6-7 / week	8-11 / week	12+
Potatoes	0	0	1	3	5	8	10



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Vegetable foods	0	Less than 1 a week	1-2 / week	3-5 / week	6-7 / week	8-11 / week	12+
Peas	1	1	3	8	12	16	24



Vegetable foods	0	Less than 1 a week	1-2 / week	3-5 / week	6-7 / week	8-11 / week	12+
Beans (baked, tinned, or dried) or lentils	1	1	4	10	15	20	30

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Vegetable foods	0	Less than 1 a week	1-2 / week	3-5 / week	6-7 / week	8-11 / week	12+
Fruit (fresh, frozen, or canned)	0	0	1	3	5	8	10

Vegetable foods	0	Less than 1 a week	1-2 / week	3-5 / week	6-7 / week	8-11 / week	12+
Other vegetables (any type)	0	0	1	2	3	5	6



Total Vegetables						

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Add totals together:

	Less than 30	=	Low fibre intake	Total
Fibre Rating	30 to 40	=	Medium fibre intake	
	More than 40	=	High fibre intake	

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## Remember you can help your constipation by:

- Being more active: remember to drink more.
- Drinking plenty of fluid: about 8-10 cups per day – try soft drinks and not too much strong tea or coffee.
- Eating more fibre rich foods such as wholegrain breads, cereals and porridge: remember to drink plenty.

- Eating more fruit and vegetables.
- Listening to your body: go to the toilet when it tells you to and leave enough time for toileting.

You may find you have some bloating and wind at first – but as your bowel becomes used to the extra fibre this will settle down.



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University of Newcastle School of Population & Health Sciences 21 Claremont Place Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 4AA