

Berry Basics Blueberries, Blackberries and Raspberries

Berries provide vitamin C and fiber Berrie also rich in antioxidants, which They re also protect cells in your body.



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Berries are in season, and might cost less, from about July to September. Buy extra and freeze for later.

Choose firm, plump, fullcolored berries. Avoid green berries as well as mushy berries with any mold.

Packages should be free of liquid. Flip over the package and check the bottom too.



All Forms Count!

When fresh berries aren't in season, buy frozen. They'll cost less, and will keep for 8 to 12 months. Frozen berries work great folded into bread, muffin, or pancake batter. Or use them in smoothies, or eat them as a snack. Eating Berries? Fresh or Frozen – the health benefits are the same!



Clean berries. Pick out any green, mushy or moldy berries. Place berries in a strainer and rinse fully. Pat berries dry with a paper towel or lay out on a shallow pan to dry fully.

Refrigerate washed or thawed frozen berries for up to 5 days. Thawed frozen berries will also keep in your fridge for 5 days. **Freeze** washed and fully dry berries in a freezer-safe container or re-sealable plastic bag. For the best quality, use berries within 8 to 12 months. Label the container or bag with the date and quantity using a marker and tape.

This material was funded by USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). SNAP provides nutrition assistance to people with low income. SNAP can help you buy nutritious foods for a better diet. To find out more, contact Oregon Safe Net at 1-800-723-3638. USDA is equal opportunity provider and employer.

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Easy Berry Recipes

1. Overnight Oatmeal

Ingredients

cup old-fashioned rolled oats (raw)
 cup low-fat yogurt
 cup non-fat or 1% milk
 cup berries, fresh or frozen
 cup chopped apple

Directions

1. In a medium bowl, mix oats, yogurt, and milk.

2. Add the fruit now or add just before eating.

3. Cover and refrigerate oatmeal mixture for 6-12 hours.

 Serve scoops of oatmeal in small dishes, or spoon into small containers with lids for grab-and-go breakfasts.
 Refrigerate leftovers within 2 hours.

Yield: 4 servings, almost 1 cup each

Prep time: 15 minutes Chill Time: 6-12 hours

Quick Ways to Use Berries

Add berries to cold cereal or hot whole-grain cereal like oatmeal.
Fold berries into bread, muffin, or pancake batter.
Top green salads with berries
Eat fresh or frozen berries as a snack. Go to FoodHero.org for more healthy recipies with berries.

2. Super Sundae

Ingredients

cup vanilla low-fat yogurt
 cup canned chopped peaches
 cup fresh or frozen blueberries
 tablespoons granola

Directions

 Divide yogurt between 2 glasses, cups or bowls. Clear glass works well.
 Spoon half of the peaches and blueberries on top of each serving.
 Sprinkle each sundae with granola, and enjoy!

4. Refrigerate leftovers within 2 hours.

Notes

Substitute any fruit you have on hand: try sliced bananas, canned mandarin oranges, or grapes cut in half.

Try different flavors of yogurt, like lemon or strawberry.

Yield: 2 servings, 1 cup each Prep time: 5 minutes