

UNDERSTANDING FOOD LABELS

For more information visit <http://www.fda.gov/> and search “Food Labeling”

What can I use the Nutrition Facts label for?

- Getting a general idea about how healthy a food is.
- Figuring out what counts as one serving and how many calories are in each serving.
- Comparing two similar products to choose the healthiest option.

Watch out for these common misconceptions:

- Assuming “sugar-free” or “fat-free” means a product is low calorie or healthy; it’s not true!
- Buying something because it says “organic,” “natural,” “multigrain,” or has some other “healthy” claim. These statements do not necessarily mean a product is good for you.
- Assuming that a package or bottle is only one serving. Many beverage bottles and packages of chips, cookies, and candy are actually 2 or 3 servings!

