

Thin by Memorial Day

Try these healthy, low-cal meal ideas from NutriFit founder Jackie Keller, combined with fun tips from *How to Eat Like a Hot Chick* authors Jodi Lipper and Cerina Vincent. The trick: Eat three balanced meals a day and have two smart snacks (like string cheese, yogurt with granola or fruit and almonds). And be sure to drink plenty of water. According to Jackie, if you exercise 30 minutes a day, five times a week and eat a balanced, 1,500-calorie-a-day diet like this one, you could lose up to 10 pounds in just four weeks!



Week 1 BREAKFAST

 Have one egg with a slice of fiberpacked multigrain toast. Try poaching. It's a very healthy way to cook eggs because you don't need butter or oil.

• For variety, eat a different fruit each day. Go for citrus or blueberries — they improve brain function.



LUNCH

 Dig into a big salad, dressed with three parts vinegar to one part olive oil.

• Invent a roll-up: Try a slice of cheese with two slices of lean turkey or roast beef and fresh spinach. Or, use swiss chard heated for 30 seconds as a wrap. Fill with veggies, cottage cheese, chopped egg whites and beans.

 AVOID: Mayo on sandwiches. Try fresh herbs like basil or parsley for flavor without adding extra calories.

DINNER

 Make over a few of your favorite meals: Try macaroni and cheese with half as much pasta as usual (and make it whole wheat) plus

steamed broccoli.

• ANOTHER

OPTION: A fish taco, with grilled fish on a corn tortilla topped with salsa, cilantro and sliced avocado.



Week 2 BREAKFAST

 Start with a cup of healthy green tea and an egg-white omelet. Be creative and use different fillings each day. Try provolone or part-skim mozzarella,

mushrooms, peppers or tomatoes.

ANOTHER
 OPTION: Low-fat
 cottage cheese on
 whole wheat toast.



LUNCH

 Spread a thin layer of hummus (it's a healthy fat) on a whole wheat pita pocket and stuff it with a combo of grilled veggies (zucchini, peppers, eggplant) and broccoli sprouts.

• ANOTHER OPTION: Romaine and spinach salad. Add red bell peppers or mandarin orange slices and lemon vinaigrette (your body will better absorb the iron in spinach if you eat it along with a food that's high in vitamin C).

DINNER

 Try a picnic-inspired meal with bean salad, a few cubes of provolone (it's a lower-cal cheese), a glass of red wine and strawberries or melon.

ANOTHER OPTION: A stuffed potato.
 Bake and halve a potato, then scoop it out. Stuff it with a mix of sautéed vegetables, cottage cheese and two tablespoons of the potato pulp. Add pepper, paprika and green onions, then bake until bubbly.

Week 3 BREAKFAST

 Update your PB and J. Toast a piece of whole-grain bread and spread on natural peanut or almond butter and sugar-free fruit spread. Add half a banana and some apple slices.

 ANOTHER OPTION: Yogurt is a great breakfast, so indulge in the real thing with authentic Greek yogurt (fat-free or one-percent), and stir in a tablespoon of your favorite flavor of sugar-free all-fruit preserves.

LUNCH

 Make a Mexican fiesta salad with lettuce, black olives, salsa, guacamole, roasted peppers, corn and black beans.

ANOTHER OPTION: Nutritious soup.

Start with an onion, garlic and olive oil base, add a cooked green vegetable (zucchini or broccoli) and a potato (with

skin), then puree.



DINNER

 Try low-cal chicken parm. Dip a chicken breast in egg whites, roll in toasted whole wheat bread crumbs and Parmesan and bake till crispy. Top with tomato sauce

and a sprinkle of Parmesan.

ANOTHER
 OPTION: A
 vegetarian version
 using eggplant
 instead of chicken.



Week 4 BREAKFAST

 Oatmeal with cinnamon. Cook it in nonfat milk or unsweetened apple juice.
 Toss in some antioxidant-rich berries.

• ANOTHER
OPTION: Cold
cereal — be sure to
choose a fiber-rich,
low-in-sugar brand.
Sprinkle freshly
ground flax on top.



LUNCH

 For an on-the-go lunch, have a big, crisp apple with your favorite cheese, a serving of whole wheat crackers (check the package for serving size) and iced green tea.

 ANOTHER OPTION: Try a chicken salad. Mix spinach and romaine lettuce, add lots of veggies, some Parmesan cheese, balsamic vinegar, one teaspoon of olive oil and top it with grilled chicken.

DINNER

 Make a veggie and shrimp stir-fry with brown rice. Season with ginger.

ANOTHER

OPTION: Broiled fish is quick and easy. Use one teaspoon of olive oil per piece of fish and broil. Add lemon and dill.

