## Traffic lights on the menu

Fuel to Go \& Play® uses a traffic light system to rate food and drinks as green, amber or red, based on their nutritional value.

In community venues, the traffic light system will help you to plan a healthy food service. The key point to remember is more green choices and less red choices.

A traffic light system is also used in other settings such as school canteens, hospital cafes/ kiosks and some workplaces e.g. large mine sites. The traffic light system makes it easy to choose healthier food and drinks.

Fuel to Go \& Play ${ }^{\circledR}$ uses the same colour coding as WA Health sites and Healthway sponsored events e.g. community fairs and concerts.


## Green items:

- form the basis of a healthy diet
- are good sources of vital nutrients
- are core food and drinks from the five food groups in the Australian Guide to Healthy Eating


Amber items:

- have some nutritional value
- may contain moderate amounts of energy, fat, sugar and/or salt
- should be selected carefully

Red items:

- lack adequate nutritional value
- are often high in energy, fat, sugar and/or salt
- are discretionary items in the Australian Guide to Healthy Eating.



## Australian Guide to Healthy Eating

The traffic light system is based on the Australian Guide to Healthy Eating (AGHE).


## Australian Guide to Healthy Eating

Enjoy a wide variety of nutritious foods from these five food groups every day.
Drink plenty of water.


|  | Green | Amber | Red |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Contain a wide range of nutrients; promotes core foods <br> FILL THE MENU | Contain some nutrients and also some fat, sugar, sodium and energy <br> SELECT CAREFULLY | Limited nutritional value; may contain excess energy, saturated fat, sodium, sugar and are often discretionary foods <br> LIMIT OR REMOVE |
| Drinks | Water; Plain and flavoured milk (<300mL); 99\% vegetable juice | Plain and flavoured milk (300500 mL ); fruit juice ( $<300 \mathrm{~mL}$ ); <99\% vegetable juice; artificially sweetened beverages (<600mL) | $99 \%$ fruit juice ( $>300 \mathrm{~mL}$ ); <br> <99\% fruit juice; sugar sweetened soft drinks; iced tea; cordial; sports drinks; flavoured water; energy drinks |
| Breads and cereals | Bread; fruit bread (<40g); cereals with no added sugar; English muffins; rye; wraps; rice; pasta; quinoa; cous cous | Fruit bread (>40g); savoury/ sweet bread (e.g. bagels, flavoured focaccia, scrolls); pancakes; pikelets | Roti; brioche; croissants; Breakfast cereal with added sugar; bread with jam/honey |
| Fruit | Fresh, frozen or canned; in juice; plain dried fruit (<40g) | Plain dried fruit ( $>40 \mathrm{~g}$ ); fruit canned in syrup | Fruit with confectionary, fruit leathers |
| Vegetables | Fresh, frozen or canned; legumes | Oven baked chips/wedges | Deep fried vegetables e.g. hot chips) |
| Milk and milk products | Plain and flavoured milk (<300mL); yoghurt; dairy-free milk and yoghurt with added calcium; low-salt cheeses e.g. cheddar, cottage, ricotta, mozzarella | Dairy-free milks and yoghurts without added calcium; light coconut milk; moderate-salt cheeses e.g. feta, haloumi, dairy-free cheese, parmesan | Condensed milk; yoghurts containing confectionary; some coconut milk/cream; cream; sour cream; high fat cheese e.g. brie, blue, camembert, processed, cheese with added fruit; ice cream; milkshakes |
| Meat and alternatives | Lean beef, pork, veal, lamb, kangaroo, chicken, turkey; fish (fresh, frozen and tinned); vegetable patties; eggs; plain nuts | Crumbed meats, poultry and fish; deli style (pressed) and canned poultry; smoked salmon; salted nuts/seeds; lean burger patties, rissoles, meatballs \& fish cakes | Deep fried meat and fish; processed meat e.g. ham, bacon, jerky, salami, chorizo; frankfurters; high fat meat e.g. pork belly; nuts/seeds with added sugar, confectionary or saturated fat |
| Savoury hot and cold foods | Meals e.g. pasta; rice; soup; sushi; salads; pizza topped with lean meats/vegetables | Meals e.g. reduced salt noodle cups; reduced fat/salt pies and sausage rolls | Meals containing high saturated fat, energy and salt content e.g. butter; cream; coconut oil; full fat pastry; pizza with processed meats |
| Snack foods | Plain air popped popcorn; cheese/tuna and cracker packs | Lightly flavoured popcorn; banana bread/muffins/scones (<60g); most muesli bars | Potato chips and crisps; jelly; cakes; slices; cookies; confectionary e.g. lollies, chocolate; flavoured popcorn |

All food and drinks have been assessed based on their nutrient values and colour coded according to the Western Australian Department of Health's Healthy Options WA Food and Nutrition Policy © State of Western Australia 2018 used with permission.

## Colour coding

If an item is prepared from scratch, our flow charts will help you colour code.

The item is prepared with:


What if the item has a combination of green, amber and red ingredients?
The item is prepared with:

|  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| combination of | combination of | combination of | combination of |
| green and amber | green and red | amber and red | green, amber and |
| ingredients $=$ | ingredients $=$ | ingredients $=$ | red ingredients $=$ |
| AMBER | RED | RED | RED |

## Menu examples

There are lots of ways to make popular choices green by using only green ingredients!

## Sandwiches, rolls, wraps and toasties

| Green <br> All green ingredients | Amber <br> One amber ingredient | Red <br> One red ingredient |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| - Wholegrain bread, roll or wrap | - Wholegrain bread, roll or wrap | - Wholegrain bread, roll or wrap |
| - Lean meat e.g. chicken, roast | - Pressed chicken/turkey | - Salami, ham |
| beef, tuna, egg etc. | - Vegetables e.g. shredded |  |
| - Vegetables e.g. shredded |  |  |
| lettuce, crunchy carrot, sliced <br> cucumber, red onion | letuce, crunchy carrot, sliced <br> cucumber, red onion | lettuce, crunchy carrot, sliced <br> lucumber, red onion |

## Beef or chicken burgers

| Green <br> All green ingredients | Amber One amber ingredient | Red One red ingredient |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| - Wholegrain roll <br> - Grilled lean steak or chicken breast, beef burger patty (freshly prepared with lean mince) <br> - Cheese <br> - Vegetables e.g. shredded lettuce, carrot, onion | - Wholegrain roll <br> - Oven baked or grilled crumbed chicken, lean beef burger patty (commercial) <br> - Moderate-salt cheeses e.g. feta, haloumi <br> - Vegetables e.g. lettuce, carrot, onion | - Wholegrain roll <br> - Deep fried crumbed chicken or beef burger patty <br> - Cheese <br> - Vegetables e.g. lettuce, carrot, onion |

## Quiche

| Green <br> All green ingredients | Amber <br> One amber ingredient | Red <br> One red ingredient |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| - Eggs | - Eggs | - Eggs |
| - Milk and cheese | - Milk and moderate-salt cheese | - Cream |
| - Tomatoes, pumpkin, spinach | - Tomatoes, pumpkin, spinach | - Full fat cheese |
| - NO pastry | - Filo pastry | - Tomatoes, pumpkin, spinach |

## Popular meal deals

Meal deals and combos are a great way to promote your healthy green choices. If priced well, they represent value for money and can attract customers attention.

| Green <br> All green ingredients | Amber <br> One amber ingredient | Red <br> One red ingredient |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Green food items served with any of | Green food item served with: | Green food items served with any of |
| the following: | - Oven baked chips or wedges | the following: |
| - Bottled water | - Plain or flavoured milk (300- | - Hot chips, potato crisps/chips |
| - Fruit | 500 mL ) | - Confectionery e.g. lollies and |
| - Salad | - $99 \%$ fruit juice $(<250 \mathrm{~mL})$ | chocolate |
| - Yoghurt | - Diet or artificially sweetened | - Sugary drinks e.g. soft drinks, |
| - Plain or flavoured milk $(<300 \mathrm{~mL})$ | drinks $<600 \mathrm{~mL}$ | sports drinks, energy drinks |
|  |  | - Milkshakes with cream or syrup |

[^0]Western Australian School Canteen Association Inc. (WASCA) for support.


[^0]:    Note: Fuel to Go \& Play supports community venues. Schools can contact the

