4.02 Food Label Nutrition Facts

Food labels contain information necessary to make healthy eating choices, but they can be deceptive, unless you know how to decode the facts. Of all the numbers listed, there is one that is the key: serving size.

The quantities and percentages listed on a food label are all relative to one serving, but most containers provide more than one serving. For example, the accompanying label indicates that the package contains two servings, but all of the values listed are for a single serving.

Consequently, all of the values listed must be doubled in order to accurately reflect the relative amounts of each nutritional component. And that is what causes confusion about healthy eating choices.

Five percent is considered low for most nutritional components, but 20% or more is excessive. Some of the percent values listed are already in the 20% range for one serving, but when multiplied by 2, they are well above the recommended daily values!

As a result, consuming the entire package of the food shown here represents \(^1\)4 of a 2000 calorie diet!

Use the following DRVs for nutritional components.

Calories2000Fat65 gramsCabohydrates300 gramsFiber25 gramsProtein50 grams

| Servings Per Container 2 Amount Per Serving Calories 250 Calories from Fat 110 | | | |
|--|-----------|----------------|------------|
| | | | |
| Total Fat | 12g | 70 | 18% |
| Saturated Fat 3g | | | 15% |
| Trans F | at 3g | | |
| Cholesterol 30mg | | | 10% |
| Sodium 470mg | | | 20% |
| Potassium 700mg | | | 20% |
| Total Carbohydrate 31g | | | 10% |
| Dietary Fiber 0g | | | 0% |
| Sugars | 5g | | |
| Protein 5 | ig | | |
| No. | | | 40/ |
| Vitamin A | | | 4% |
| Vitamin C | | | 2% |
| Calcium | | | 20% |
| Iron | | | 4% |
| | | er or lower de | |
| Total fat | Calories: | 2,000 | 2,500 |
| Sat fat | Less than | 65g 20g | 80g 25g |
| | Less than | 300mg | 300mg |