FAST FOOD QUICK GUIDE

Fast food is frequently high in calories, high in fat, high in sugar, high in sodium, and usually offers heavily processed foods. Consider these strategies next time you're on the run to eat healthier:

PICKING YOUR ENTREE

Consider trying a grilled entree, a salad, or a wrap instead of a fried option. Go one step further and ask for any sauce or cheese on the side, or a sandwich with no bun. Grilled items offer your body protein without the extrasalt, oil, fat, and negative effects of fried foods. Keep reading to see a range of options below:

McDonald's

Bacon Ranch Grilled Chicken Salad:

330 Calories

14g of fat

1140mg sodium

9g carbs

Grilled Chicken Sandwich:

380 Calories

6g fat

960mg sodium

44g carbs

Quarter Pounder w/ Cheese:

540 Calories

27g fat

1110mg sodium

42g carbs

SUBWAY

6" Turkey Breast on Wheat

280 Calories

3.5g fat

760mg sodium

46g carbs

6" Oven Roasted Chicken on Wheat

320 Calories

5g fat

610mg sodium

46g carbs

6" Spicy Italian on Wheat:

480 Calories

24g fat

1490mg sodium

46g carbs

Farmhouse Salad - Roast Turkey w/ Balsamic

360 Calories

25g fat

1340mg sodium

13g carbs

ARBY'SRoast Beef Classic- Mid

460 Calories

20g fat

1400mg sodium

37g carbs

Turkey Ranch & Bacon Sandwich

800 Calories

34g fat

2420mg sodium

79g carbs

PICKING YOUR SIDE

Have you ever tried a side item like a fruit cup, small salad, or baked potato? Most fast food chains will gladly swap greasy salty fries for a healthier side.

McDonald's

15 Calories

Og fat

0 mg sodium

4 g carbs

Apple Slices: Med. French Fry:

340 Calories

140 fat cal 190 mg sodium

44 g carbs

SUBWAY

Apple Slices:

35 Calories

0 fat cal

0 mg sodium 9 g carbs

Doritos:

140 Calories

8g fat

180 mg sodium 17 g carbs

ARBY'S

Potato Cakes (2):

250 Calories

14g fat

430mg sodium

Med. Curly Fry:

550 Calories

29g fat

1250 mg sodium

23g carbs 65g carbs

The Bottom Line.

Fast food restaurants typically offer heavily processed and preserved items. Next time you're on the go, try and challenge yourself to consider a healthier option off the menu!

by Ashley Sineath, MPH