The really honest

Uncover the truth about your favourite cuisine. BY YUEN YI YING

.No sugar-coating.

•Free of unnecessary additives.

•We use only quality ingredients from the freshest sources (nutrition data from Health Promotion Board Singapore and United States Department of Agriculture).

•Created with expert advice from Shape advisory panellists Jaclyn Reutens and Pooja Vig.

•Prices do not include gym membership and medical bills.

WESTERN



SHAPE'S RECOMMENDATIONS (APPROVED BY OUR PANEL)

PRICE

Pasta Marinara (1289)

A good source of the antioxidant lycopene, which prevents cholesterol build-up in arteries.

Grilled Black Pepper Steak (1229)

This is only healthy if you choose lean cuts like sirloin. Too much saturated fat ups your risk of heart disease. But as part of a balanced diet, red meat can boost your stores of zinc, vitamin B12 and iron. You can always ask to replace the fries with roasted or steamed veggies.

Baked potato with a touch of salt (2999)

Have your spuds whole instead of mashed as copious amounts of butter are mixed in to give the latter its creamy texture. Get more fibre by eating the skin, and go easy on the sour cream and bacon bits (no more than a teaspoon of each).

111 kcal

+ Fat Tax (FT): 3.4g + Gross Sodium Tax (GST): 525mg

250 kcal

+ FT: 14g fat

+ GST: 271mg

278 kcal

+ FT: 0.4g

+ GST: 30mg



PRICE

Salami (289)

There are hardly any nutrients in this. With so much fat and sodium in such a small amount, even a little is too much. 119 kcal

+ FT: 10.4g +GST: 529mg

Pork Ribs (241g)

Eating this is like downing four and a half tablespoons of oil - way over your daily (53g) fat limit.

French Fries

(208g)

Blotting them with a napkin to cut the grease won't help - so don't bother. If you're really craving some, share this finger food with friends. 790 kcal

+ FT: 61.1g

+ GST: 125mg

607 kcal

+ FT: 30g

+ GST: 653mg



INDIAN-MUSLIM





RECOMMENDATIONS

(APPROVED BY OUR PANEL)

PRICE

Plain Thosai

A slimmer alternative to prata, this pancakelike staple has less ghee (clarified butter). Pair it with dhal (lentil curry) which is high in cholesterol-lowering soluble fibre.

Chickpea

Curry (253g) A great source of protein, iron, soluble fibre and zinc for vegetarians. But you'll need to scale back your fat and salt intake for the rest of the day.

97 kcal

+ FT: 2g

+ GST: 264mg

305 kcal

+ FT: 15g

+ GST: 1,206mg

SPECIALS

(EAT THIS ONCE IN A BLUE MOON)

PRICE

Mutton Murtabak (211g)

These meat-stuffed pockets are especially unhealthy for those with hypertension or high levels of fat in the blood (hyperlipidemia).

Mutton Dum Biryani (859g)

So rich and salty that you shouldn't be eating even half of this monster.

Beef Rendang (859g)

This is full of fat (mostly saturated - the worst kind) because it's made with coconut milk. Definitely not for those with diabetes and high blood cholesterol.

373 kcal

+ FT: 17g + GST:

1,365mg

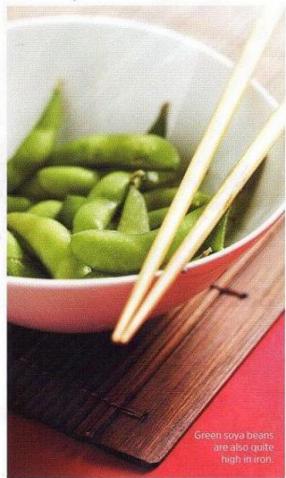
1,142 kcal + FT: 46g

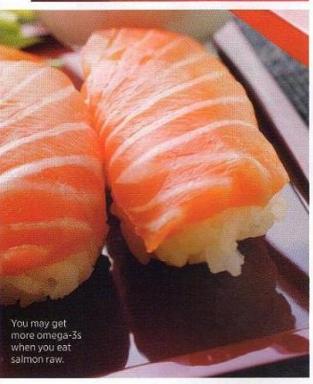
+ GST: 1,400mg

312 kcal + FT: 20g + GST:

959mg

JAPANESE







PRICE

Edamame (1559) Start your meal with these high-fibre pods - they'll fill you quickly so you're less likely to overeat. They're

a good vegetarian source of omega-3 fatty acids too.

Soba Noodles (1149) Ranks low on the glycaemic index so your blood sugar levels won't spike and crash quickly. We've put the dipping sauce on the side to help you moderate your sodium intake.

Salmon Sushi (One piece) For relatively few calories, these tasty morsels pack a good dose of omega-3 and protein. Add a smear of wasabi (Japanese scientists say

horseradish helps prevent cancer).

189 kcal

+ FT: 8.1g + GST: 9mg

113 kcal

+ FT: 0.1g + GST: 68mg

59 kcal

+ FT: 1g + GST: 115mg



SEASONAL **SPECIALS** (EAT THIS ONCE IN A BLUE MOON)

PRICE

Mixed Tempura (Eggplant, okra and prawn tempura - two pieces each)

Unless you've been good all day, avoid these fritters. There's plenty of grease in the batter.

Teriyaki Chicken Don (406g)

The sauce is high in sugar, which inflates the calorie count. You know why it's tender? The recipe calls for thigh meat, one of the fattiest parts of the bird.

Futomaki Sushi Roll

These rice rolls filled with crabstick, egg and radish come at a surprisingly salty cost. How about ordering salmon sushi instead?

113 kcal + FT: 0.1g

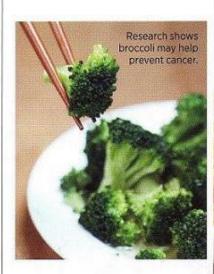
+ GST: 68mg

113 kcal + FT: 0.1g

+ GST: 68mg

113 kcal + FT: 0.1g + GST: 68mg

CHINESE







SHAPE'S RECOMMENDATIONS (APPROVED BY OUR PANEL)

PRICE

Wonton Noodles

(Soup, 545g or dry, 330g) With this, you get a mix of carbohydrates, protein, and nutrients like zinc, vitamin B12 and iron. Ask for more veggies and less lard. Don't slurp up all the soup - no matter how savoury it is!

Braised Soya Sauce Chicken (349)

A protein-rich dish that refuels you after exercise. We suggest you remove the skin where all the fat is hidden.

Steamed Pomfret

(1 whole fish, 168g)

This dish is so lean it contains less calories than a glass of low-fat milk - but almost twice the amount of protein, Ideal for weight-watchers.

Stir-Fried Broccoli

(173g)

Loaded with vitamins A, C and K, don't underestimate this simple, immunity-boosting dish.

Steamed Prawns (799)

These crustaceans are low-fat sources of essential minerals like zinc and potassium, which regulate numerous body functions. Unfortunately, they are also high in cholesterol so you can't have them every day.

(Soup) 290kcal

+ FT: 5g + GST: 1,804mg

(Dry) 411 kcal

+ FT: 12g + GST: 1,502mg

50 kcal

+ FT: 3g

+ GST: 144mg

114 kcal

+ FT: 5g

+ GST: 722mg

98 kcal

+ FT: 7g

+ GST: 318mg

100 kcal

+ FT: 2g + GST: 156mg



SEASONAL **SPECIALS** (EAT THIS ONCE IN A BLUE MOON)

PRICE

Kang Kong Belacan (300g)

Probably the worst way to eat your greens as the spicy paste is fried with lots of oil to bring out the chilli's flavour.

Deep-Fried Baby Squid (221g)

There's so much cholesterol (1,048mg) in this that you'll probably have to go on a raw veggie diet for four days to break even (the recommended daily limit is 300ma).

Kung Po Chicken (165g)

Truth is, the meat is deep-fried with the skin on, and refried with the sauce. You can hardly tell, but this sweet and spicy dish is really fatty.

Ban Mian Handmade

Noodle Soup (528mg) You were wrong to think this is diet food. There's too much grease (minced meat) and way too much salt (the anchovies and broth) in it. In fact, the fat content in this is equal to that in a plate of fried chicken. The horror!

396 kcal

+ FT: 31g + GST:

2,184mg

924 kcal

+ FT: 61g + GST:

1,638mg

363 kcal

+ FT: 26g

+ GST: 551mg

475 kcal

+ FT: 22g

2,196mg