

# HEALTH AND WELLBEING CHECKLIST Date

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## **Mindful Eating Guidelines**

Mindful eating can improve digestion, reduce overeating, and help you enjoy your meals more. Follow these steps to build a mindful eating practice.

#### **Eliminate Distractions While Eating**

- O Turn off screens, put away your phone, and focus solely on your meal.
- O Tip: Create a peaceful environment by sitting at a table and minimising noise.

#### Take a Moment of Gratitude Before Eating

- O Pause to reflect on the food in front of you and express gratitude for it.
- Example: "I'm grateful for this nourishing meal and the effort that went into preparing it."

#### **Start with Smaller Portions**

- O Serve yourself a smaller amount and allow yourself to go back for seconds if needed.
- O Tip: This encourages you to tune in to your hunger signals.



### **Chew Slowly and Thoroughly**

- O Take smaller bites and chew each one completely before swallowing.
- Tip: Aim to chew 20-30 times per bite.



## Pay Attention to the Taste and Texture

- O Notice the flavours, smells, and textures of each bite to enhance enjoyment.
- O Tip: Focus on describing the experience in your mind, like "sweet and crunchy."



#### **Pause Between Bites**

- O Put down your utensils between bites to slow your eating pace.
- O Tip: Take a sip of water or a deep breath before the next bite.





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#### **Tune Into Your Hunger and Fullness Cues**

- O Stop eating when you feel comfortably full, not stuffed.
- O Tip: Use a hunger scale from 1 (starving) to (overfull) to gauge your needs.



### **Avoid Eating When Emotionally Upset**

- O Recognise when you're eating out of stress or boredom rather than hunger.
- O Tip: Practice stress-relief techniques like deep breathing or walking instead.





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