FIT FATHER PROJECT GLYCEMIC INDEX CHEATSHEET

The Glycemic Index (GI) is a measurement of how certain foods affect our blood sugar levels. Foods with a higher GI cause our blood sugar levels to rise much higher and faster than foods with a lower GI. Typically, foods with a lower GI are healthier than those with a higher GI. To maintain health and stable energy levels, we want to eat mostly low-to-medium GI foods like we recommend inside our FIt Father Meal Plan. After exercise, however, we can get away with eating higher GI foods, because our bodies are sensitive to absorbing sugars into our muscles to refuel. That's why post-exercise is one ideal time to eat more carbs. Also remember: we can alter the glycemic index of our meals by adding healthy fats to the meal, which slows the rise in blood sugar. That's why all of the meals in the Fit Father Meal Plan contain proteins, lower-GI carbs, & healthy fats.

Fruits	GI
Raspberries	30
Apple	38
Pears	38
Blueberries	40
Strawberries	40
Oranges	42
Peach	42
Grapes	46
Kiwi	47
Banana	52
Pineapple	59
Cantaloupe	65
Watermelon	72

Cereal	GI
All Bran	50
Rolled Oats	50
Oatmeal	55
Mini Wheats	58
Special K	69
Cheerios	74
Coco Pops	77
Cornflakes	80
Rice Krispies	82
Instant Oatmeal	83

Veggies	GI
Kale	5
Brussels Sprouts	6
Spinach	6
Broccoli	10
Cabbage	10
Cauliflower	12
Tomato	15
Carrots	47
Green Peas	48
Corn on the Cob	54

Grains	GI
Wheat Tortilla	30
Wheat pasta	32
White Pasta	42
Corn Tortilla	52
Pumpernickel Bread	56
Wheat Bread	60
Quick Mac and Cheese	64
Pita Bread	68
Slice of White Bread	70
Plain Bagel	72
Waffles	76
Baguette (white)	95

Sweeteners	GI
Stevia (natural)	0
Fructose	15
Agave Syrup	15
Coconut Palm Sugar	35
Maple Syrup	54
Carmel	60
Honey	61
Sucrose	65
Splenda (artificial)	80
Glucose	100

Snacks	
Peanuts	
Nutella	
Corn Chips	
Snickers Bar (high fat)	
Blueberry Muffin	
Raisins	
Popcorn	
Graham Crackers	
Donuts	
Baked Potato	
Pretzels	
Rice Cakes	
White Rice	
Fruit Rollup	

Dairy	GI
Butter*	0
Cheese*	0
Whole Milk	31
Skimmed Milk	32
Sweetened Yogurt	33
Low Fat Yogurt	33
Chocolate Milk	40
Soy Milk	44
Plain Ice Cream	61
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^{*}Too low to measure

Starches	GI
Wheat Tortilla	30
Sweet Potatoes	48
Brown Rice	50
Wheat Pasta	54
Basmati Rice	58
Couscous	61
Taco Shells	68
Mashed Potatoes	73
French Fries	75
Baked Potato	76
White Rice	85

GI Legend	GI
Low Glycemic Index	0-55
Medium Glycemic Index	56-69
High Glycemic Index	70-100

Note: For reference and education only. Variations in testing methods, reporting sources, GI scales and ingredients may produce different values.



Remember: lower GI foods are <u>typically healthier</u>. They are not always healthier. For example, a snickers bar has a fairly low GI, because it contains so much fat along with sugar. Watermelon has a very high GI, but it also contains a lot of water, vitamins, and minerals; yet, it's far healthier than a candy bar. The main point to take from this chart is that processed foods almost always have a much higher GI than unprocessed fruits & veggies. If you understand this main concept from the chart, you're good to go. When we're creating meals to optimize our energy, we will prioritize fruits, veggies, & some easily digestible proteins.

Drinks	GI
Red Wine	15
Beer	15
Tomato Juice	38
Apple Juice	44
Orange Juice	50
Coca Cola	63
Fanta Orange	68
Cranberry Juice	68
Gatorade	78