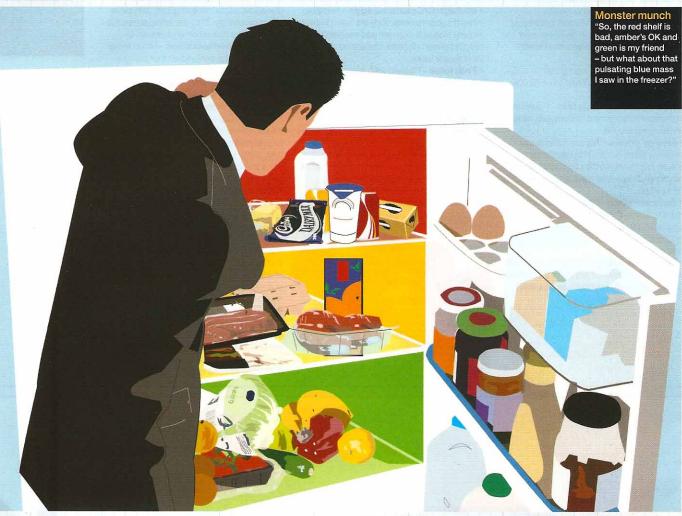


Nutrition

Chips and beer: bad. Just beer: less bad?



o, now that you're perfectly polished, standing proud, and generally soaking up lustful glances from dresswearers everywhere, you might think that your work towards a 'better you' is done. This would be an error. We have yet to look inwards. It's absolutely no good being quite the picture of style and sophistication if you're still a bloater with gut rot.

With eating, as indeed with life in general, Arena endorses the 80/20 rule: do the right thing 80 per cent of the time and for the remaining 20 per cent you can stir things up like an absolute bastard. This way you can maintain a healthy diet and still crack on with the curries as and when.

Your new 'my intestine is a temple' routine begins on page 170. Think of it as a set of traffic lights: green is good, so feel free to stuff yourself with as many of that column as you like; ambers are to be eaten in moderation; and unless you are entirely retarded you'll have worked out what you should do with the red stuff. Reducing your intake of these will help prevent you keeling over the next time you think about running for a bus...

Instant booster

Blending is the quickest and easiest way to consume large amounts of nutrients. Try this cocktail twice

a week:

1 tbsp of sunflower seeds

FACT!

Organic food tends

to contain more

nutrients and less

pesticide, as well

as hormone and

antibiotic residue

known for boosting

penis size in young

boys and fertility

in men

- 1 tbsp of linseeds (flax)
- 2 dried prunes or apricots
- A handful of blueberries/ mixed berries (can be frozen) or any fruit you like
 - Half a cup of milk
 - To increase protein add a dessertspoon of a good-quality whey powder
- Blend for 30 seconds and drink. It's neat fibre, vitamins, minerals and essential fats

The bad news

You knew alcohol wasn't actually the elixir of life, but what you might not have realised was that it also has an oestrogen-like quality which can lead to infertility and gynecomastia (man boobs)

To counteract the manifold effects of booze on the body, you have two alternatives: stop drinking it, which isn't much of an option, to be honest; or put back what the beer takes out. Alcohol damages the lining of the stomach, making it harder for you to absorb B vitamins and amino acids. It increases the urinary loss of zinc, magnesium, calcium and vitamin B12, and destroys vitamins C, B6 and some more amino acids. Which all reinforces the needs for a good multi-vitamin.

After a session your liver is under enormous strain, which you can ease by taking some Phyllanthus Complex and milk thistle. Also, eat more liver-supportive foods: colourful vegetables, beetroot, artichokes, broccoli, brown rice, eggs and rocket. >

NOVEMBER 2005 ARENA

Red foods

Limit as much as possible

- Caffeine Traces in coffee, tea, chocolate, energy drinks and some painkillers; can cause impotence.
- Refined foods White rice, bread and pasta are nutrient-empty as 77 per cent of some minerals and fibre are removed in processing.
- Salt Reducing the average daily intake of nine grams to three would save 70,000 lives annually in the UK.
- Hydrogenated/trans fats Found in processed foods, meat substitutes, ready meals and biscuits.
- Energy drinks Packed full of sugar to give a quick boost. This causes an insulin surge followed by an energy drop which leads to sugar cravings. Insulin equals fat storage.
- Saturated fats Can lead to an increased risk of cardiovascular disease, so reduce your dairy intake – cheese, milk, cream and butter – plus fatty cuts of lamb, beef and pork.
- Chips and crisps These starchy foods when heated produce acrylamide, a known carcinogen. Avoid as much as possible.

Amber foods

Great in moderation

- Lean meat No more than three times per week, they're a good source of zinc and iron.
- Intelligent/Columbus eggs Available in most supermarkets, they are from chickens fed an Omega 3-rich diet and are helpful for reducing heart disease. But eat no more than six per week.
- Fruit juice Packed with vitamins and natural sugar, so dilute with water to reduce the rush and avoid those with added sugar go 100 per cent pure, where possible.
- Oily fish Salmon, mackerel, sardines and fresh tuna are high in fats that help focus and concentration. Limit to three portions a week, as they can be high in mercury.
- Nuts and seeds Packed full of minerals and good fats. Eat five portions weekly.
- Lean poultry An excellent source of protein. Five times a week for these too.



Green foods

Eat as much as you like

- Sweet potatoes Better than your regular King Edwards, these have a lower glycaemic index, meaning less disruptive effect on energy. They are also packed full of protective carotenes and vitamin C.
- Vine-ripened tomatoes Much richer in lycopene, the antioxidant that colours them red, which helps to reduce the risk of prostate cancer and heart disease.
- **Beetroot** Great for the liver, enabling the proper formation of sex hormones.
- Blueberries 100 grams of these chaps score highest of all fruit and veg on the oxygen radical absorbance capacity (ORAC) test, with 2,400 points. You need to be consuming around 5,000 ORAC units each day to fulfil your antioxidant status.
- Watercress Rich in potassium and magnesium, so great for cardiovascular problems, and can help ward off the odd 'erectile dysfunction' associated with circulatory difficulties.
- Broccoli Cruciferous veg those in the 'mustard' family: broccoli, cauliflower, brussell sprouts and cabbage – contain sulforaphane, a compound shown to neutralise cancer-causing chemicals responsible for damaging cells.
- Brown rice, pasta and wholegrain bread Make your sperm stronger as they are all rich in fertility-boosting zinc. Enzymes on the sperms' head need zinc in order to push through and fertilise the egg.

Food for thought Some tomatoes off the vine, a few tubs of antioxidant vitamins and suddenly you'll be bounding to work. Honest...



OFFICIAL FUEL CONSUMPTION FIGURES FOR SAAB 9-3 SPORTWAGON RANGE IN MPG (LITRES/100KM): URBAN 16.4 (17.2) - 39.2 (7.3), EXTRA URBAN

Antioxidants

 Free radicals can damage the DNA of cells and are produced from smoke, sunlight, pollution, exercise and, disappointingly, eating fried or barbecued food. Weirdly, the more endurance exercise you do, the more free radicals you produce - something about 'increased oxygen utilisation' (see, you knew going for a run was a bad idea) - so to protect yourself take an antioxidant alongside your multi-vit. BioCare's Cellguard Forte is a good choice. · Essential fats help protect the heart, improve mood, focus and intelligence, and help your metabolism work efficiently. A popular option is Nutri Eskimo-3, as a government study showed it had the lowest mercury PCB levels of all the oils tested (as well as the stupidest name in the health

shop). Take three during the morning.

Both supplements are available online at

positivehealthshop.co.uk, or call 01275-

846490. Get 20 per cent off the RRP with

this Arena special offer (quote ARE/001).

Minerals

- Calcium Promotes strong bones and good teeth.
- Magnesium Both calcium and magnesium help relaxation, so if you're stressed take 400mg of each at night to help you sleep.
- Zinc Aids reproductive health.
- Selenium Beneficial antioxidant.
- Chromium Balances blood sugar and reduces cravings.
- Iron Boosts strength and energy.

FACT!
Only 4 per cent of men say they eat the nine servings of fruits and vegetables a day recommended as part of an active lifestyle

Vitamins

In general, our food has up to 75 per cent less nutrients in it today than it did 50 years ago. And with pollution levels still on the rise – Britain now produces 161 million tonnes of carbon dioxide a year, for example, up 4.7 per cent on 1997 figures – our bodies are having to work ever harder to keep us healthy and sprightly. So a little assistance in pill form is to be recommended – though don't skimp, as cheaper vitamins contain lower levels of nutrients, often in a less-easily absorbable form.

Things you need

- Vitamin A For reproductive and skin health plus immune function.
- Vitamin D Promotes strong bones, immune system and steady moods.
- Vitamin E Cardioprotective, antioxidant and good for skin health.
- Vitamin K Promotes strong bones and blood clotting when injured.
- Vitamin C Needed for immune function.
- B vitamins Boost energy, nerve function, mood and cell replication, and are therefore important for manufacturing quality sperm (which can't be bad). You should be looking for a pill that contains around 50mg of B vitamins, to be taken at breakfast. Arena recommends Solgar's VM75 One A Day (voted best multi-vitamin by US consumer magazine Proof!), which is available from most good health-food stores in the UK.





A large boot shouldn't stop you from getting your kicks. And the all-new 9-3 Aero V6 SportWagon generates 350Nm of torque, so there is no more powerful V6 petrol engine in its class. Turbocharged power that's controlled by ReAxs all-wheel steering allied to a responsive and agile chassis. All in all it's a very moving experience. For more information call 0845 300 9395.

Visit saaboffers.co.uk

The all-new Saab 93 SportWagon.

