

The Calorie Equation

“When I go on a diet, I feel so hungry!” Well then, you are on the wrong diet! The secret to healthy weight loss and weight maintenance is eating nutritious foods that enhance the feeling of satiety for the least amount of calories. How do you do that? Know your numbers. Calories count, so don’t be misled by label claims of fat-free or sugar-free. These foods are not calorie free, but often nutrient free. Research tells us that volume of food, not necessarily calories, helps us feel full. Select more high fiber, high water content foods and you can eat until satisfaction, while gaining good nutrition (Rolls, 2000). Learn to indulge in colorful, flavorful foods without loads of calories with this picture lesson from Dr. Howard Shapiro’s book, *Picture Perfect Weight Loss* (Shapiro, 2000).

5 1/2 oz Chex Mix **820** calories



10 oz loaf of semolina bread

820 calories



And you thought bread was fattening? Somehow, a few handfuls of the salty, crunchy Chex Mix doesn’t seem so bad ... but the hidden fat, which has more than double the calories of carbohydrate, really pumps up the calories!