Hand-size portion guide









A serving of protein = 1 palm

A serving of vegetables = 1 fist

A serving of carbs = 1 cupped hand

A serving of fats = 1 thumb

Using hands to measure portions is a good approach for most clients who don't need specific amounts of foods or macronutrients.

- **1. Hands are portable.** They come with you to work lunches, restaurants, social gatherings, etc.
- 2. Hands are a consistent size, providing a consistent reference.
- **3.** Hands scale with the individual. Bigger people need more food, and tend to have bigger hands, therefore getting larger portions. Smaller people need less food, and tend to have smaller hands, therefore getting smaller portions.
- **4.** Hand-size portions can help you track food choices, nutrients, and energy simply and easily. This saves time-consuming and often unnecessary weighing and measuring, which most people don't need.

Hand portion table			
FOOD CATEGORY	HAND PORTIONS	MACRONUTRIENT	CONVENTIONAL MEASUREMENT EQUIVALENT
Proteins	1 palm	~20-30 g	\sim 3-4 oz (85-115 g) cooked meat / tofu, 2 whole eggs, 1 cup Greek yogurt
Vegetables	1 fist	N/A	~1 cup non-starchy vegetables
Carbohydrates	1 handful	~20-30 g	$\sim\!1/2$ to 2/3 cup (100-130 g) cooked grains / legumes, 1 medium fruit / tuber
Fats	1 thumb	~7-12 g	\sim 1 tbsp (14 g) oils, nuts, seeds, nut butter, cheese, etc.