



American Heart Association®

Healthy for Good™

KEEP IT FRESH

Stretch your produce and dollars by knowing how to store fresh fruits and vegetables. The **American Heart Association** recommends 2 cups of fruit and 2.5 cups of vegetables per day.

Generally:

Fridge temperature should be at 40° F or below. Always refrigerate cut or peeled produce. Store vegetables and fruits separately. Keep apples, bananas, broccoli, cauliflower, cucumbers, onions, pears, potatoes and watermelon away from other produce, as they can affect how quickly other items ripen and rot.

Pantry

Pack away in a cool, dark place like your pantry or cellar:

GARLIC, ONIONS & SHALLOTS

HARD SQUASH

(Winter, Acorn, Spaghetti, Butternut)

**SWEET POTATOES,
POTATOES, & YAMS**

WATERMELON

Countertop

Store loose and away from sunlight, heat and moisture:

BANANAS

CITRUS FRUIT

Store lemons, limes, oranges and grapefruit loose or in a mesh bag. Refrigerate for longer storage.

STONE FRUIT

Ripen avocados, apricots, nectarines, peaches and plums in a paper bag, then move to the fridge where they'll last a few more days.

TOMATOES

Refrigerator

Store in plastic bags with holes in your produce drawer, unless noted:

APPLES & PEARS

BEETS & TURNIPS

Remove greens and keep loose in the crisper drawer.

BERRIES, CHERRIES & GRAPES

Keep dry in covered containers or plastic bags.

BROCCOLI & CAULIFLOWER

CARROTS & PARSNIPS

Remove greens.

CELERY

CORN

Store inside their husks.

**CUCUMBERS,
EGGPLANT & PEPPERS**

Store on the upper shelf, which is the warmer part of the fridge.

FRESH HERBS

Except basil. Keep basil stems moist and wrap loosely in plastic.

GREEN BEANS

LETTUCE & LEAFY GREENS

Wash, spin or pat dry, wrap loosely in a dish towel or paper towels and place in a plastic bag in vegetable drawer. Keep stems moist.

MELON

MUSHROOMS

Keep dry and unwashed in store container or paper bag.

PEAS

**ZUCCHINI &
SUMMER/YELLOW SQUASH**



Learn more at heart.org/HealthyForGood

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