We All Scream for Ice Cream – But Which One?

Employee Wellness Solutions Network Nutrition | Balanced Lifestyle | Fitness

With summer creeping in, ice cream will be back on the shopping list as a treat for warm days. There is certainly no lack of options in this department of the grocery store, but which is really the best for you *and* tastes good?

Frozen Yogurt



Frozen yogurt is usually made from nonfat milk as well as a sweetener (sugar or corn syrup), flavoring and active cultures (like all yogurt contains). There is also a thickening agent but often times it's a natural one like egg yolk. Because there are no specific standards for frozen yogurt, its ingredients and characteristics can vary. Overall most of the brands try to keep frozen yogurt as a healthy, natural product that might not quite compare in texture to ice cream but has good taste and isn't overly processed.

Ice Cream



Ice Cream is made by stirring, while freezing, a pasteurized mix of one or more dairy ingredients – milk, concentrated fat-free milk, cream, condensed milk – sweetening agents, flavorings, stabilizers, emulsifiers and optional egg or egg yolk solids or other ingredients. Federal standards require ice cream to contain a minimum of 10% milk fat (about 7 grams g of fat per 1/2 cup serving) and 20% total milk solids by weight.

Fat-free or Sugar-free?

Both frozen yogurt and ice cream provide calcium, protein and other essential minerals. A variety of frozen yogurts and ice creams with different calorie and fat contents are available. But be wary of fat-free or sugar-free options and check portion sizes. If they eliminate fat, they often add less natural additions like more sugar which is slightly lower in calories but not necessarily better for you. If they cut sugar, they use alternative sweeteners, which are usually less satisfying and also require the addition of other less natural additions to allow for proper thickening and freezing. The calorie and fat contents of these dairy foods vary depending on the type of milk used and the addition of cream, egg yolk solids or sweetening agents. Depending on the brand, you might not actually save many calories with frozen yogurt, but you will always be taking in less fat and saturated fat.

The American Heart Association recommends getting no more than 20 to 35 % of your calories from fat, and no more than 7 % from saturated fat.

Frozen Yogurt: Chapman's Dutch Chocolate [1/2 cup]	
Nutritional Facts	
Calories	90 cals
Total Fat Sat. Fat	2 g 1.5 g
Cholesterol	15 mg
Sodium	90 mg
Carbohydrate Dietary Fibre Sugars	16 g 0 g 12 g
Protein	2 g
Calcium	200 mg

To burn 270 calories:

- 65 mins of walking
- 28 mins of jogging
- 30 mins of swimming
- 41 mins of cycling

To burn 90 calories:

- 20 mins of walking
- 9 mins of jogging
- 10 mins of swimming
- 14 mins of cycling

Bottom Line: Be a smart eater and shopper. Take your time to read the nutritional label and ingredients list, which will save you time and calories in the long run!

Ice Cream: Haagen Daas Chocolate [1/2 cup]	
Nutritional Facts	
Calories	270 cals
Total Fat	18 g
Sat. Fat	11 g
Cholesterol	115 mg
Sodium	60 mg
Carbohydrate	22 g
Dietary Fibre	1 g ¯
Sugars	21 g
Protein	5 g
Calcium	150mg

Resource: CalorieKing, http://www.livestrong.com, http://www.eatwisconsincheese.com

