

Balance Your Doshas

To balance Vata:

Minimize:

Pungent, Bitter, and Astringent Tastes







Astringent

Increase:

Sweet, Sour, and Salty Tastes



Sweet



Sour



Salty

To balance Pitta:

Minimize:

Sour, Salty, and Pungent Tastes



Sour



Salty



Pungent

Increase:

Sweet, Bitter, and Astringent Tastes



Sweet



Bitter



Astringent

To balance Kapha:

Minimize:

Sweet, Sour, and Salty Tastes



Sweet



Sour



Salty

Increase:

Pungent, Bitter, and Astringent Tastes



Pungent



Bitter



Astringent



How the Six TastesInfluence Our Emotions

Taste Effect of Overindulgence

Sweet (Madhura)	Overattachment, possessiveness
Sour (Amla)	Envy, jealousy, anger
Salty (Lavana)	Greed, overweening ambition
Bitter (Tikta)	Resentment, sorrow
Pungent (Katu)	Hostility, violence, hatred
Astringent (Kashya)	Insecurity, fear, cynicism





Phytonutrients

Phytonutrient	Benefits	Food Sources
Flavonoids	Antioxidant, anticarcinogenic, protect against heart disease	Onions, broccoli, red grapes, apples, cherries, citrus fruits, berries, tomatoes, tea, coffee
Phenolic acids	Antioxidant, anticarcinogenic	Nuts, berries, green tea, prunes, plums
Sulfides	Antioxidant, anticarcinogenic, inhibit blood clotting	Garlic, onions, chives
Lycopenes	Antioxidant, anticarcinogenic	Tomatoes, red grapefruit
Isothiocyanates	Anticarcinogenic	Broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower
Isoflavones	Block hormonally stimulated cancers, lower cholesterol levels	Soy beans, soy-derived foods, garbanzo beans, pinto beans, navy beans
Anthocyanins	Antioxidant, lower cholesterol, stimulate immunity, anti-inflammatory	Berries, cherries, grapes, currants, red cabbage, red onions, kidney beans
Beta-carotene	Antioxidant, boosts immunity, anticarcinogenic, maintains good vision	Carrots, sweet potatoes, butternut squash, cantaloupe, peaches, mangoes, apricots, pumpkin
Terpenoids	Antioxidant, antibacterial, prevent stomach ulcers	Peppers, cinnamon, horseradish, rosemary, thyme, turmeric
Indoles	Anticarcinogenic	Broccoli, cabbage, Brussels sprouts, bok choy, kale, cauliflower



Lignans	Anticarcinogenic, lower cholesterol and blood pressure	Flaxseed, sesame seeds, wheat bran, olives
Phytosterols	Lower cholesterol, anticarcinogenic	Avocado, nuts, seeds, legumes
Coumestans	Anticarcinogenic	Clover, alfalfa, and soybean sprouts; split peas, pinto beans, lima beans
Phthalides	Lower blood pressure, lower cholesterol, anticarcinogenic	Celery, carrots, parsley, parsnips, fennel





Eat the Rainbow

Food Color	Food Sources
Red	Good source of lycopene and capsanthin. Food sources include red tomatoes, red peppers, red/pink grapefruit, watermelon, red grapes, beets, red cabbage, red chard, red apples, strawberries, cherries, raspberries, and cranberries.
Orange/Yellow	Good source of beta-carotene, beta-cryptoxanthin, and flavonoids. Food sources include squash, orange and yellow bell peppers, carrots, corn, sweet potatoes, yams, pumpkin, bananas, cantaloupe, mangoes, oranges, tangerines, papaya, nectarines, apricots, peaches, pineapple, and lemons.
Green	Good source of lutein, chlorophyll, and indoles. Food sources include kiwis, apples, limes, green grapes, spinach, lettuce, chard, arugula, kale, Swiss collards, green cabbage, broccoli, artichokes, asparagus, celery, avocado, zucchini, Brussels sprouts, and green peas.
Deep Blue/Purple	Good source of anthocyanins and phenolic acids. Food sources include plums, blueberries, blue corn, blue potatoes, blue basil, purple cabbage, black raspberries, blackberries, purple grapes, and eggplant (with skin).
White	Good source of allicin and flavonols. Food sources include pears, coconuts, onions, garlic, cauliflower, parsnips, and rutabagas.

