



MIGHTY MINERALS

THESE ELEMENTS PLAY A KEY ROLE
IN HEALTH AND WELL-BEING.

While less famous overall than their vitamin cousins, minerals play roles no less vital in the thousands of bodily functions required to keep the body alive and well. Some, such as calcium, are called *macrominerals* because they're needed in relatively large amounts. Others, such as zinc, are called *microminerals* because they're required in small, but crucial, quantities.

As inorganic elements, minerals are best absorbed when bound to organic compounds found naturally in foods, particularly when combined with protein building blocks called amino acids to form *amino acid chelates*. Fiber plays a double-edged role in mineral absorption: While inhibiting the body's ability to absorb minerals over the short term fiber actually enhances absorption over time, possibly by enhancing digestive health and/or by serving as a food source for *probiotics*, the healthy microbes that live in the gastrointestinal tract.

CALCIUM > CHEESE



MAGNESIUM > PUMPKIN SEEDS



MINERAL	WHERE IT'S FOUND
Calcium	Collards, dairy, sardines, tofu
Chromium	Broccoli, grape juice, onions, romaine lettuce, tomatoes
Copper	Almonds, barley, brazil nuts, cashews, chickpeas, lentils, liver, mushrooms, oysters, raisins, sunflower seeds
Iodine	Cod, eggs, kelp, milk, yogurt
Iron	Hazelnuts, lentils, oats, oysters, sesame seeds, soybeans, swiss chard
Magnesium	Bananas, brown rice, cashews, halibut, lima beans, peanuts, pumpkin seeds, raisins
Manganese	Almonds, brown rice, hazelnuts, mussels, pecans, potatoes, spinach, sunflower seeds, sweet potatoes
Molybdenum	Beans, lentils, peas
Phosphorus	Almonds, brazil nuts, beef, eggs, milk, oats, peanuts, pumpkin seeds, salmon, sunflower seeds
Potassium	Bananas, beans, potatoes, prunes, raisins, sweet potatoes
Selenium	Brazil nuts, eggs, mussels, salmon, shrimp, tuna, whole wheat
Sulfur	Asparagus, beans, broccoli, cabbage, dairy, eggs, garlic, radishes
Zinc	Almonds, beef, oats, oysters, peanuts

ZINC > OYSTERS



IRON > LIVER



WHAT IT DOES

Best known as a bone builder but is also required for blood clotting, nerve and muscle function and energy production; vitamin D helps regulate calcium levels

Crucial to the activation of insulin, the hormone that regulates glucose, or blood sugar; deficiencies can result in elevated bloodstream glucose, a condition associated with diabetes

Aids in immune function; helps strengthen bones and collagen, a protein needed to build skin and connective tissue; used in cellular energy production

Required for the creation of hormones by the thyroid, the body's master energy controller, making it crucial to weight control and overall metabolic activity

Helps form hemoglobin, the substance that lets red blood cells carry oxygen throughout the body; women of childbearing age are particularly prone to deficiency

Used in hundreds of enzymatic reactions throughout the body; required for proper regulation of blood flow; helps relax muscles; had been found to help ease migraines and menstrual problems

Used in an enzyme that helps regulate energy production and in a molecule that helps protect the mitochondria, the cell's energy plants, against damage

Required for the elimination of harmful substances called sulfites and of toxins resulting from nitrogen usage within the body

Helps form the nucleic acids found in DNA, which carries the body's genetic code; works with calcium to strengthen bones; helps form cell membranes and maintain a healthy pH balance

Required to maintain proper electrolyte balance; helps support healthy heart, muscle and nerve function

Works with vitamin E to help eliminate free radicals, unstable molecules that can damage cells; essential for sperm production; supports immune health

Helps tissues throughout the body maintain their structural integrity and is especially crucial to joint health; MSM provides sulfur in a form that is readily assimilated

Used to form dozens of enzymes within the body; required for healthy cell growth and development; helps stabilize cell membranes; plays a vital role in male reproductive health

NOTE: Optimal dosages will vary from person to person. Consult a nutritionally aware practitioner who can help you formulate an individualized supplementation plan.