# Short Lessons for School Nutrition Assistants 

## Adjusting a Recipe with Herbs and Spices

Lesson Overview

Lesson Participants: School Nutrition Assistants/Technicians, School Nutrition Managers, and CACFP Staff

Type of Lesson: Short, face-to-face training session
Time Needed to Conduct the Lesson: 30 minutes
Lesson Description: This lesson reviews the factoring method to adjust a recipe. Guidelines for adjusting a recipe for herbs and spices are demonstrated. Participants can practice adjusting a recipe with an activity. The lesson is designed for managers to teach school nutrition assistants/technicians.

## Lesson Objectives:

At the end of this lesson, the participant will be able to

1. Use the factor method to adjust a recipe, and
2. Demonstrate how to adjust herbs and spices in a recipe.

## Get Ready to Train

Note: This lesson should be taught along with the No Time to Train lessons Indentifying the Parts of a USDA Quantity Recipe and Herbs, Spices, and Seasonings.

The format for this No Time to Train lesson includes: a lesson overview, preparation checklist, lesson at a glance with timeline for conducting the lesson, references, an instructor's script, and handouts. The manager/instructor will use the script to present the lesson to participants. The script gives directions to the manager/instructor-DO, SAY, ASK, LISTEN, AND
ACTIVITY-for delivering the lesson.
No special audiovisual or electronic equipment is needed to conduct the lesson. The lesson can be presented in the cafeteria, media center, or classroom.

## Preparation Checklist

Directions: Use the Preparation Checklist to prepare for the training session. Track your progress by checking off tasks as they are completed.

| Done | Lesson Tasks |
| :---: | :---: |
|  | Gather Materials <br> Materials Needed: |
| $\square$ | - Instructor's Script |
| $\square$ | - Handout 1: Equivalent Weights and Volume Measures and Tips |
| $\square$ | - Handout 2: Recipe Conversion Worksheet (Activity and Answers) |
| $\square$ | - Pencils (one for each participant) |
| $\square$ | - Session Evaluation form (one for each participant) |
|  | Prepare for Lesson <br> Before the Training: |
| $\square$ | - Make copies of Handouts 1 and 2 (one for each participant) |
| $\square$ | - Make copies of Session Evaluation form (one for each participant) |
|  | On Training Day: |
| $\square$ | - Place pencils on tables (one for each participant) |
| $\square$ | - Distribute Handouts 1 and 2 to each participant |
|  | On the Instructor's Table: |
| $\square$ | - Instructor's Script |
| $\square$ | - Handout 1: Equivalent Weights and Volume Measures and Tips |
| $\square$ | - Handout 2: Recipe Conversion Worksheet (Activity and Answers) |
| $\square$ | - Session Evaluation forms |

## Lesson at a Glance <br> (30 minutes)

| Time | Topic | Task | Materials |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 4 minutes | Introduction and <br> Overview | Instructor discusses how to <br> calculate and adjust a recipe with <br> herbs and spices. <br> Distribute Handout 1. <br> Participants will view tables to <br> facilitate computation. | Instructor's Script <br> Handout 1: <br> Equivalent Weights <br> and Volume <br> Measures and Tips |
| 8 minutes | Objective 1: <br> Use the factor method <br> to adjust a recipe. | Distribute Handout 2. <br> Instructor will review directions <br> of the activity with participants. <br> Participants will do the activity <br> on adjusting a USDA recipe. | Handout 2: Recipe <br> Conversion <br> Worksheet (Activity) |
| 8 minutes | Objective 2: <br> Demonstrate how to <br> adjust herbs and <br> spices in a recipe. | Participants will adjust herbs and <br> spices in a recipe. | Handout 2: Recipe <br> Conversion |
| 4 minutes | Review Activity | Distribute Handout 2 (Answers). | Handout 2: <br> Recipe Conversion <br> Worksheet (Answers) |
| 4 minutes | Wrap up and Review | Volunteers share their answers in |  |
| a group discussion. |  |  |  |
| 2 minutes | Session Evaluation | Conduct a short evaluation of the |  |
| lesson. | Session Evaluation <br> form |  |  |

## References:

National Food Service Management Institute. (2007). On the road to professional food preparation. ( $2^{\text {nd }}$ ed.). University, MS: Author.
http://nfsmi.org/documentlibraryfiles/PDF/20111118033712.pdf
National Food Service Management Institute. (2009). Culinary techniques for healthy school meals: seasonings. (2 ${ }^{\text {nd }}$ ed.). University, MS: Author. http://www.nfsmi.org/documentlibraryfiles/PDF/20100210102351.pdf

National Food Service Management Institute. (2009). Culinary techniques: using seasonings online course. University, MS: Author. http://www.nfsmi.org/onlinecourses Culinary Techniques for Healthy School Meals: Introduction course is a prerequisite.
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service. (2008). A menu planner for healthy school meals. . .to help you plan, prepare, serve, and market appealing meals. http://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/resources/menuplanner_chapter7.pdf
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, and National Food Service Management Institute. (2002). Measuring success with standardized recipes. University, MS: Author. http://nfsmi.org/ResourceOverview.aspx?ID=88
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, and National Food Service Management Institute. (2006). USDA recipes for schools. http://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/Resources/usda_recipes.html

## Instructor's Script



SAY:
USDA quantity recipes for school nutrition programs are developed and tested to yield 50 and 100 servings. Since we do not always prepare the yield or the number of servings specified in the recipe, it may be necessary to change the yield by increasing or reducing all the ingredients in the recipe. Today you will practice adjusting a recipe and applying some general guidelines for seasonings.

## ACTIVITY:

Organize the participants into small working groups for the following activity. Participants will use Handout 1: Equivalent Weights and Volume Measures and Tips and Handout 2: Recipe Conversion Worksheet (Activity).

## DO:

Allow 8-10 minutes for the group to review both handouts. Briefly discuss each handout and answer any questions.


## SAY:

Handout 1: Equivalent Weights and Volume Measures and Tips will be helpful in saving time in adjusting recipes. You may use this handout to complete the activity.

## ASK:

How do you adjust a quantity recipe to increase the number of servings? What does the term "multiplying factor" mean when adjusting a recipe?

## LISTEN:

Listen to individual responses.
SAY:
A quantity recipe may be adjusted by using the factor method. The factor is the multiplier used to increase or reduce the quantity of ingredients in a recipe. The factor method to adjust a recipe has four steps:

Step 1: Determine the "multiplying factor."
Step 2: Convert different units to one unit.
Step 3: Multiply each ingredient times the "multiplying factor."
Step 4: Change the new quantities to the largest unit of common weights and measures.

## SAY:

Next, let’s view Handout 2: Recipe Conversion Worksheet (Activity). You are adjusting a USDA recipe using the factor method. Let's go over the activity's directions, the USDA Recipe for Chili con Carne with Beans (D-20), and a recipe conversion worksheet. Your assignment is to calculate the quantities of food needed in a recipe by completing the recipe conversion worksheet activity. The recipe conversion worksheet will have a section note to practice an adjustment of herbs and spices. Some of the examples of ingredient calculations shown on the directions are from the recipe conversion worksheet. Calculate and adjust the recipe from a quantity of 100 servings to a quantity of $\mathbf{2 0 0}$ servings.

Practice using the general guidelines for herbs and spices. In general, double the herbs and spices in a recipe when increasing from 50-100 servings. Increase the herbs and spices by $25 \%$ ( 0.25 ) for each additional 100 servings and test the recipe. Heat builds in recipes quickly, especially when adding hot seasoning such as red pepper (cayenne), mustard, cloves, and peppercorns. Use the following steps to change the yield of the recipe.

## Step 1: Determine the "multiplying factor."

To calculate the multiplying factor, divide 200 needed yield by 100 recipe yield.

$$
\frac{\text { Needed yield }}{\text { Current Recipe yield } 100}=2 \text { (multiplying factor) }
$$

Increase the herbs and spices by $25 \%$ (0.25) for each additional 100 servings. Example:
ground black/ white pepper, 1 Tbsp 1 tsp = 4 tsp x 2.25 factor $=9$ tsp $=3 \mathrm{Tbsp}$
NOTE: Use the same formula to decrease a recipe. If the recipe yield is for 50 servings and we need 25 servings, divide 25 by 50 .

$$
\text { Needed yield } \quad 25=1 / 2 \text { or } 0.5 \text { (multiplying factor) }
$$

Current Recipe yield 50


SAY:

## Step 2: Convert different units to one unit.

Change the ingredient weight and measure amounts into one unit of measure. It is recommended to adjust a recipe by weight rather than by volume when possible. You can change the original weight into one unit of measure by calculating in two ways.

1. Change weight to either all ounces or all pounds.
2. Change fractions to decimals for weights and measures to facilitate computation. If needed, use Handout 1 tables (ounces to pounds) for helpful time saving tips.

> Fresh onions, chopped $1 \mathrm{lb} 12 \mathrm{oz}=16 \mathrm{oz} / \mathrm{lb}+12 \mathrm{oz}=28 \mathrm{oz}$
> OR
$1 \mathrm{lb} 12 \mathrm{oz}=1.75 \mathrm{lb}(28 \mathrm{oz})$

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## Step 3: Multiply each ingredient times the "multiplying factor."

Determine the new weight or volume. See the chili recipe conversion worksheet examples:

Fresh onions, chopped
$1 \mathrm{lb} 12 \mathrm{oz}=16 \mathrm{oz} / \mathrm{lb}+12 \mathrm{oz}=28 \mathrm{oz} \mathrm{x} 2$ factor $=56 \mathrm{oz}(3.5 \mathrm{lb})$
OR
$1 \mathrm{lb} 12 \mathrm{oz}=1.75 \mathrm{lb} \times 2$ factor $=3.5 \mathrm{lb}$

## Step 4: Change the new quantities to the largest unit of common weights and measures.

Fresh onions, chopped

$$
1 \mathrm{lb} 12 \mathrm{oz}=16 \mathrm{oz}+12 \mathrm{oz}=28 \mathrm{oz} \times 2 \text { factor }=56 \mathrm{oz}=3.5 \mathrm{lb}
$$

(1) DO:

Allow 8-10 minutes for the group to complete the Recipe Conversion Worksheet, and discuss the answers after the activity.

## ASK:

Do you have any questions about adjusting a recipe with herbs and spices?

## LISTEN:

Listen to individual responses. Answer questions to the best of your ability. If there are questions you can't answer, tell the participants you will find out the answer and let them know later. If you need assistance in finding answers, please call the National Food Service Management Institute at 800-321-3054.


DO:
Distribute the Session Evaluation form.
SAY:
Thank you for participating in the lesson today. Please take a couple of minutes to complete the Session Evaluation form. Thank you for your input.

## Handout 1: Equivalent Weights and Volume Measures and Tips

Directions: Below are charts of time saving measurements.

| Measurement | Fractions to Decimal | Ounces to Pounds |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Abbreviations | Equivalents | $1 \mathrm{lb}(1.000 \mathrm{lb})=16 \mathrm{oz}$ |
| teaspoon = tsp | $1 / 8=0.13$ | $788 \mathrm{lb}(0.875 \mathrm{lb})=14 \mathrm{oz}$ |
| Tablespoon $=$ Tbsp | $1 / 4=0.25$ | $3 / 4 \mathrm{lb}(0.750 \mathrm{lb})=12 \mathrm{oz}$ |
| ounce $=\mathrm{oz}$ | $1 / 3=0.33$ | $2 / 3 \mathrm{lb}(0.667 \mathrm{lb})=1023 \mathrm{oz}$ |
| fluid ounce $=\mathrm{fl} \mathrm{oz}$ | $3 / 8=0.38$ | $58 \mathrm{lb}(0.625 \mathrm{lb})=10 \mathrm{oz}$ |
| pound $=\mathrm{lb}$ or \# | $1 / 2=0.50$ | $1 / 2 \mathrm{lb}(0.500 \mathrm{lb})=8 \mathrm{oz}$ |
| cup = c or cup | $5 / 8=0.62$ | $38 \mathrm{lb}(0.375 \mathrm{lb})=6 \mathrm{oz}$ |
| pint $=$ pt | $2 / 3=0.67$ | $1 / 3 \mathrm{lb}(0.333 \mathrm{lb})=51 / 3 \mathrm{oz}$ |
| quart $=$ qt | $3 / 4=0.75$ | $1 / 4 \mathrm{lb}(0.250 \mathrm{lb})=4 \mathrm{oz}$ |
| gallon = gal | $7 / 8=0.88$ | $18 \mathrm{lb}(0.125 \mathrm{lb})=2 \mathrm{oz}$ |
| weight $=\mathrm{wt}$ |  | $1 / 16 \mathrm{lb}(0.063 \mathrm{lb})=1 \mathrm{oz}$ |


| Cup | Fluid oz | Teaspoon | Tablespoon | Pint | Quart | Gallon |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $1 / 16 \mathrm{c}$ | 0.5 fl oz | 3 tsp | 1 Tbsp | -- | -- | -- |
| $1 / 8 \mathrm{c}$ | 1 fl oz | 6 tsp | 2 Tbsp | -- | -- | -- |
| $1 / 4 \mathrm{c}$ | 2 fl oz | 12 tsp | 4 Tbsp | -- | -- | -- |
| $1 / 3 \mathrm{c}$ | 3 fl oz | 16 tsp | 5 Tbsp | -- | -- | -- |
| $1 / 2 \mathrm{c}$ | 4 fl oz | 24 tsp | 8 Tbsp | -- | -- | -- |
| $2 / 3 \mathrm{c}$ | 5 fl oz | 32 tsp | 11 Tbsp | -- | -- | -- |
| $3 / 4 \mathrm{c}$ | 6 fl oz | 36 tsp | 12 Tbsp | -- | -- | -- |
| 1 c | 8 fl oz | 48 tsp | 16 Tbsp | .5 pt | $1 / 4 \mathrm{qt}$ | -- |
| 2 c | 16 fl oz | -- | -- | 1.0 pt | $1 / 2 \mathrm{qt}$ | -- |
| 3 c | 24 fl oz | -- | -- | 1.5 pt | $3 / 4 \mathrm{qt}$ | -- |
| 4 c | 32 fl oz | -- | -- | 2 pt | 1 qt | $1 / 4 \mathrm{gal}$ |
| 8 c | 64 fl oz | -- | -- | 4 pt | 2 qt | $1 / 2 \mathrm{gal}$ |
| 12 c | 96 fl oz | -- | -- | 6 pt | 3 qt | $3 / 4 \mathrm{gal}$ |
| 16 c | 128 fl oz | -- | -- | 8 pt | 4 qt | 1 gal |

## Handout 2: Recipe Conversion Worksheet (Activity)

Directions: Complete the recipe conversion worksheet. Calculate and adjust the USDA recipe Chili con Carne with Beans (D-20) using the factor method of recipe adjustment. Adjust the recipe for a yield of 100 servings to be increased to 200 servings. In general, double the herbs and spices in a recipe up to 100 servings. Increase the herbs and spices by $25 \%$ ( 0.25 ) for each additional 100 servings. Heat builds in recipes quickly, especially when adding hot seasoning such as red pepper (cayenne), mustard, cloves, and peppercorns. Use the following steps to change the yield of the recipe. Minimal rounding is acceptable as long as the value is rounded up.

## Step 1: Determine the "multiplying factor."

Needed Yield $200=2$ (multiplying factor) Current Recipe Yield 100

NOTE: Increase the herbs and spices by 25 \% (0.25) for each additional 100 servings Example:
Ground black or white pepper, 1 Tbsp 1 tsp = 4 tsp x 2.25 factor = 9 tsp = 3Tbsp

## Step 2: Convert different units to one unit.

Convert different units of the ingredients' weight and measure amounts to one unit of measure. It is recommended to adjust a recipe by weight rather than by volume when possible. Change weight to either all ounces or all pounds. Change fractions to decimals for weights and measures to facilitate computation by using the Handout 1 tables. See worksheet.

Fresh onions, chopped $1 \mathrm{lb} 12 \mathrm{oz}=16 \mathrm{oz} / \mathrm{lb}+12 \mathrm{oz}=28 \mathrm{oz}$
OR
$1 \mathrm{lb} 12 \mathrm{oz}=1.75 \mathrm{lb}(28 \mathrm{oz})$

## Step 3: Multiply each ingredient times the "multiplying factor."

Determine the new weight or volume; for example.
Fresh onions, chopped $1 \mathrm{lb} 12 \mathrm{oz}=16 \mathrm{oz}+12 \mathrm{oz}=28 \mathrm{oz} \times 2$ factor $=56 \mathrm{oz}$
OR
$1 \mathrm{lb} 12 \mathrm{oz}=1.75 \mathrm{lb} \times 2$ factor $=3.5 \mathrm{lb}$
Step 4: Change the new quantities to the largest unit or nearest measurable amount.
See the example,
Fresh onions, chopped $1 \mathrm{lb} 12 \mathrm{oz}=16 \mathrm{oz}+12 \mathrm{oz}=28 \mathrm{oz} \mathrm{x} 2$ factor $=56 \mathrm{oz}=3.5 \mathrm{lb}$

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## Chili con Carne with Beans



Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, and National Food Service Management Institute. (2006). USDA Recipes for Schools. http://www.nfsmi.org/USDA recipes/school recipes/D-20.pdf

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Handout 2: Recipe Conversion Worksheet (Continued)

| Ingredient | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { Quantity } 100 \\ \text { (from Old } \\ \text { Recipe) } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Old } \\ \text { Quantity } \end{gathered}$ | Times | Multiplying Factor | Equals | $\begin{gathered} \text { New } \\ \text { Quantity } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Quantity } 200 \\ \text { (for New Recipe) } \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Raw ground beef (no more than 20\% fat) | 14 lb | - | X | 2 | = | - | 28 lb |
| Fresh onion, chopped | 1 lb 12 oz | 28 oz | X | 2 | $=$ | 56 oz | 3.5 lb |
| Granulated garlic | 3 Tbsp | - | x | 2 | = | - | 6 Tbsp |
| Fresh green pepper, chopped | 1 lb | - | X | 2 | = | - | 2 lb |
| NOTE: Increase the herbs and spices by 25 \% (0.25) for each additional 100 servings |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ground black or white pepper | 1 Tbsp 1 tsp | 4 tsp | x | 2.25 | $=$ | 9 tsp | 3Tbsp |
| Chili powder | 1/4 cup 2 tsp | 14 tsp | X | 2.25 | $=$ |  |  |
| Paprika | 2 Tbsp | 6 tsp | x | 2.25 | $=$ |  |  |
| Onion powder | 2 Tbsp | 6 tsp | X | 2.25 | = |  |  |
| Ground cumin | $1 / 2$ cup | 8 Tbsp | x | 2.25 | = |  |  |
| Canned diced tomatoes, with juice | 6 lb 6 oz | 102 oz | X | 2 | = |  |  |
| Water | 1 gal 2 cups | 18 cups | X | 2 | = |  |  |
| Canned tomato paste | 3 lb 8 oz | 56 oz | X | 2 | = |  |  |
| Canned pinto or kidney beans, drained | $\begin{gathered} 6 \mathrm{lb} 12 \mathrm{oz} \\ (1 \mathrm{No.} 10 \mathrm{can}) \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | 108 oz | X | 2 | $=$ |  |  |
| Reduced fat Cheddar Cheese, Shredded (optional) | 3 lb | - | X | 2 | = |  |  |

Adapted from: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, and National Food Service Management Institute. (2006).
USDA Recipes for Schools. (pp.22-26) http://teamnutrition.usda.gov/Resources/rec_adjust.pdf

Handout 2: Recipe Conversion Worksheet (Answers)

| Ingredient | $\begin{gathered} \text { Quantity } 100 \\ \text { (from Old } \\ \text { Recipe) } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Old } \\ \text { Quantity } \end{gathered}$ | Times | Multiplying Factor | Equals | New Quantity | $\begin{gathered} \text { Quantity } 200 \\ \text { (for New Recipe) } \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Raw ground beef (no more than 20\% fat) | 14 lb | - | X | 2 | $=$ | - | 28 lb |
| Fresh onion, chopped | 1 lb 12 oz | 28 oz | X | 2 | $=$ | 56 oz | 3.5 lb |
| Granulated garlic | 3 Tbsp | - | X | 2 | = | - | 6 Tbsp |
| Fresh green pepper, chopped | 1 lb | - | X | 2 | = | - | 2 lb |
| NOTE: Increase the herbs and spices by 25 \% for each additional 100 servings |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ground black or white pepper | 1 Tbsp 1 tsp | 4 tsp | x | 2.25 | $=$ | 9 tsp | 3Tbsp |
| Chili powder | 1/4 cup 2 tsp | 14 tsp | x | 2.25 | $=$ | 31.5 tsp | $\begin{aligned} & 11 \text { Tbsp }+2 \text { tsp or } \\ & 1 / 2 \text { cup }+3 \text { Tbsp }+2 \text { tsp } \end{aligned}$ |
| Paprika | 2 Tbsp | 6 tsp | x | 2.25 | = | 7.5 tsp | 4 Tbsp + 2 tsp |
| Onion powder | 2 Tbsp | 6 tsp | x | 2.25 | = | 7.5 tsp | 4 Tbsp + 2 tsp |
| Ground cumin | $1 / 2$ cup | 8 Tbsp | X | 2.25 | = | 18 Tbsp | $21 / 4$ cups |
| Canned diced tomatoes, with juice | 6 lb 6 oz | 102 oz | X | 2 | $=$ | 204 oz | 12 lb 12 oz |
| Water | 1 gal 2 cups | 18 cups | x | 2 | $=$ | 36 cups | $2 \mathrm{gal}+1 \mathrm{qt}$ |
| Canned tomato paste | 3 lb 8 oz | 56 oz | x | 2 | = | 112 oz | 7 lb |
| Canned pinto or kidney beans, drained | $\begin{gathered} 6 \mathrm{lb} 12 \mathrm{oz} \\ (1 \mathrm{No.} 10 \mathrm{can}) \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | 108 oz | x | 2 | = | 216 oz | $\begin{gathered} 13 \mathrm{lb} 8 \mathrm{oz} \\ (2 \text { No. } 10 \text { cans }) \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
| Reduced fat Cheddar Cheese, Shredded (optional) | 3 lb | - | X | 2 | = | - | 6 lb |

## Session Evaluation

## Instructions:

Completely fill in the circle of your answer. Use a \#2 pencil.
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Please select only one response for each statement. Do not fold or crease this sheet.


Attendee Status:


## Reaction to this Session

Please read the following statements related to the session. Rate your level of agreement by using the scale 5 (Strongly Agree) to 1 (Strongly Disagree).

1. The session objectives were clearly presented.
2. The session objectives were achieved.
3. I can apply what I learned in this session to my job.
4. Attending the session increased my skill on the topic.
5. Attending the session increased my knowledge on the topic.
6. I would recommend this session to others.
7. Overall, the session met or exceeded my expectations.

## Comments about this Session

The information I found MOST useful was:
$\qquad$
$\qquad$

Please share any additional comments:
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$

National Food Service Management Institute - The University of Mississippi


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