PROCESSED PROTEIN FOODS

Demystifying Food Processing:

WHAT ARE PROCESSED PROTEIN FOODS?

Protein foods are important for building muscles, making stronger bones, and much more. But many protein foods cannot be eaten as is, so they need to be processed first. During processing, protein foods can undergo a series of mechanical and/or chemical steps.

Food processing can help with...











Food safety

Taste

Nutrition

Shelf-life

Convenience

Based on the level of processing, processed protein foods can be divided into 4 categories

Unprocessed & Minimally Processed

Foods that can be eaten as is & foods that had some unwanted parts removed.









Processed Culinary Ingredients

Foods prepared to make cooking & baking ingredients.



Processed

Foods prepared to increase shelf-life and sometimes with a few added ingredients.











Ultra-Processed

Foods that go through many processing steps with many added ingredients.





FOODS

There are many types & forms of processing!



Keeping in mind that the level of processing does not necessarily relate to how healthy a food is...

- 1. Choose processed foods with less sugar, sodium, and saturated fat.
- 2. Choose processed foods with fewer ingredients and additives.
- 3. Consume "ultra-processed foods" in small amounts and less often.

