It often feels overwhelming when you find out it is medically necessary to change your diet. Food is intertwined in our lives in so many ways and suddenly your dietitian or doctor asks you to try the low FODMAP diet. While you may receive some education on the topic and understand the basics, the challenge of putting this diet into practice does not evade you. Follow this step-by-step guide to make low FODMAP meal planning a no-brainer!

STEP:	ACTION:	NOTES:
1 REALLY LEARN ABOUT FODMAPS	 Truly understand what FODMAPs are and how they interact with the body. Remember, FODMAPs are only found in carbohydrate-containing foods. That makes it easier to understand that protein and fat containing foods are already FODMAP free (i.e. meat, fish, eggs, oils, etc.) Where are carbohydrates found? Think plant-material (fruits, vegetables, grains, legumes, nuts) and lactose sugar found in milk products. This concept helps as you become a FODMAP-detective during the next steps! 	 Book: The Complete Low FODMAP Guide Blogs: http://nutritionbyerin.com/basic-fodmap-training/ http://www.ibsfree.net/what-is-fodmap-diet/ Other: Low FODMAP video
2 MAKE A BRAINSTORMING CHART	 On a blank piece of paper, make a chart with 4 columns and 5 rows. Fill in your column headings: Column 1: Meal Time Column 2: Option #1 Column 3: Option #2 Column 4: Option #3 Fill in your row headings: Row 1: Breakfast Row 2: Lunch Row 3: Dinner Row 4: Snacks Fill in the chart with ideas that you typically eat for meals and snacks. Don't even worry about the FODMAP diet at this point. 	Example: Meal Time Option #1 Option #2 Option #3 Breakfast Oatmeal with chopped apples, misina, maple symup, and cinnamon. Coffee with creamer Honey nut cheerios with the dater, 2 ascrambied deges with creamer Lunch Chipotle burnto with white rice, black beans, fajita veggies, grilled these consol, and increamer with creamer Spinach salad topped with tura salad (mayo, celery, garker, powder), shredded carots, slice of unerside of courters, shredded cheese and lettuce Spinach salad topped with tura salad (mayo, celery, garker, powder), shredded carots, slice of unerside of courters and baked sweet potato (add perseas and baked sweet potato (add baked swee
3 HIGHLIGHT THE HIGH FODMAP FOODS	 Print out or find a reliable high FODMAP food list: Monash University phone app Kate Scarlata list Now, look over your food chart. Highlight all the high FODMAP foods from the meals and snacks you designed. 	Example: with creamer Sliced turkey on rye bread Si with Swiss cheese, lettuce, tu tomato, onion, and mustard. Side of pretzels with hummus It Bacta with marinera spuce Si

	• If the food is high FODMAP but only when a certain serving size is consumed (i.e. no more than 1/8 of an avocado per sitting), then use a separate highlighter color for that food.	
4 MAKE SMART SWAPS	 After reviewing the highlighted foods, think of appropriate swaps that are low FODMAP foods. This is a good time to whip out the low FODMAP food list for inspiration: Low FODMAP food list Monash University phone app 	Example: with creamer Sliced turkey on GLUTEN FREE BREAD with Swiss cheese, lettuce, tomato, SPROUTS and mustard. Side of RICE CRACKERS with 1tbsp PEANUT BUTTER
5 FOLLOW YOUR MEAL PLAN FOR >2 WEEKS	 Use these meals and snacks over the next few weeks. Limiting your options helps improve adherence to the diet. Thereafter, consider recreating new ideas for your meal plan. Keep in mind that the low FODMAP elimination diet is not intended to be followed more than 8 weeks. You may slightly modify the plan or completely edit it depending on your desire for variation. 	Example: with creatien Tuna salad on GLUTEN FREE BREAD with Cheddar cheese, spinach, tomato, SPROUTS and cucumber. Side of RICE CRACKERS with 1tbsp Almond BUTTER Pasta with maripara sauce

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