Common Fats and Oils

Fat in your diet affects lipids or fats in your blood. It is important to know which fats are healthy choices for your heart.

Types of Fat	Effect on Lipids	Food Sources
Mono-unsaturated Fats	Lowers LDL (bad) cholesterol Maintains HDL (good) cholesterol when replacing saturated fat	Olive oil, olives, canola oil, nuts, avocados, tub margarine, peanut oil, peanut butter
Poly-unsaturated Fats Omega – 3 fatty acid Liquid Oils	Lowers total cholesterol Lowers triglycerides	Walnuts, flaxseed oil, chia seeds, fatty fish, krill/ fish/ cod liver oils, algal oil
Poly-unsaturated Fats Omega – 6 fatty acid Liquid Oils	Lowers total cholesterol Lowers HDL (good) cholesterol	Vegetable oil, corn oil, soybean oil, safflower oil, sunflower oil
Saturated Fat "Animal Fat" Solid Fat	Raises total cholesterol Lowers HDL (good) cholesterol	Cream, butter, whole milk, ice cream, cheese, fatty meats, poultry skin, coconut oil
Partially Hydrogenated Fats "Trans Fatty Acids" Solid Fat	Raises LDL (bad) cholesterol Lowers HDL (good) cholesterol	Stick margarine, snack foods, cookies, crackers, cakes, pastries, vegetable shortening

