

How (and Why) to Get More Apple Cider Vinegar into Your Diet

Raw apple cider vinegar is truly a superfood! Here is an abbreviated list of some of its benefits.

Raw Apple Cider Vinegar:

- is full of beneficial enzymes (when it is raw, don't buy pasteurized!)
- contains B vitamins, folic acid, and potassium
- boosts digestion
- can alleviate heart-burn and acid reflux when taken 15-20 minutes before meals. Acid reflux is actually caused by too little stomach acid, not too much. Taking ACV before your meal increase the acid levels in the digestive tract.
- helps to balance your <u>microbiome</u> which can boost immunity and vitamin and mineral absorption.
- regulates blood sugar and increases insulin sensitivity.
- can help maintain a healthy cholesterol ratio
- helps with weight loss. Acetic acid increases the enzyme AMPK, which increases fat burning and decreases fat and sugar production in the liver. (Source). It also suppresses appetite.
- reduces blood pressure by suppressing the activity of the enzyme renin. ACV also prevents excessive clotting of the blood.
- aids in detoxification.

improves skin health and appearance (most directly when applied externally to skin, but also by regulating your gut health or "internal skin."

Ideas on how to get more Apple cider vinegar into your diet:

- The easiest way is, of course, homemade salad dressing. Here is my <u>favorite salad dressing</u>.
- To boost your digestion, take 1 Tablespoon of ACV in warm water about 15-20 minutes before your meal.
- ❖ Make a shrub. A shrub is made by soaking fruit in ACV. It imparts the flavor of the fruit into the ACV making it much more palatable. Two of my favorite to make are a watermelon-mint shrub and a blueberry-raspberry shrub, but any fruit works. If you have fruit that is about to go bad if it isn't eaten asap, throw it in a jar and pour ACV on it!! A shrub will boost your digestion the same way that ACV alone does, but it is much more tasty. Mix 1-2 Tablespoons of shrub with either water or mineral water and drink about 15-20 minutes before your meal.
- * Stir in ACV into a bowl of soup before serving. They key is that you want the soup to have cooled a bit so that you don't kill the beneficial bacteria.
- ❖ Add it to homemade condiments like <u>mayo</u> and my magnesium-rich ranch.
- ❖ Try it in <u>coleslaw</u>!

Replace other vinegars in recipes with ACV (when it won't be cooked).