

MAKING SENSE OF MAGNESIUM

This information is not meant to provide direct medical advice. Always consult with a medical provider before starting any new supplement.

FORM OF MAGNESIUM	BENEFITS	DOWNSIDES	COMMON USES
Magnesium Glycinate (or bisglycinate)	Highly absorbed, not associated with GI side effects	Higher pill burden - fewer milligrams per tablet	*Amanda's top choice General use, relaxation, anxiety/sleep, cramps
Magnesium Citrate	Well absorbed. Mild laxative, can help with occasional constipation	May cause loose stools if dose is too high	Constipation, general use
Magnesium Oxide	Inexpensive, small molecule so can get higher doses in fewer tabs	Poorly absorbed. May cause loose stools at high doses	Often in multivitamins and other combination products. Decent for general use but poor absorption limits efficacy
Magnesium Malate	Gentle, no GI side effects	May be more difficult to find	Bound to malic acid, which is utilized in energy production so often used in conditions such as fibromyalgia and chronic fatigue (although studies are mixed)
Magnesium Sulfate	Found in epsom salt, can be helpful for sore muscles	Oral absorption is variable	Epsom salt soaks and topical creams/gels may be helpful for relaxation, muscle aches/pains. May be used orally (with caution) for constipation, although not recommended
Magnesium L-Threonate	Able to cross the blood-brain barrier	May be more expensive and more difficult to find	Neurologic disorders, sleep

FOODS HIGH IN MAGNESIUM:

Pumpkin seeds, 1 oz roasted = 156mg Chia seeds, 1 oz = 111mg Brazil nuts, 1 oz or 6 nuts = 107mg Brown rice, 1 cup cooked = 96mg Cashews, 1 oz or 16 nuts = 86mg Mackerel, 3oz cooked = 82mg Spinach, ½ cup cooked = 78mg Almonds, 1 oz or 23 nuts = 77mg Swiss chard, ½ cup cooked = 75mg Black beans, ½ cup cooked = 60mg Avocado, 1 whole = 58mg Edamame, shelled, ½ cup cooked = 50mg Hazelnuts, 1 oz or 21 nuts = 46mg Peanuts, 1 oz or 28 nuts = 48mg Chickpeas, ½ cup cooked = 39mg Banana, 1 medium = 32mg Chicken breast, 3 oz roasted = 22mg Ground beef, 3 oz cooked = 20mg