frugal SUBSTITUTIONS

Allspice	Equal parts ground cinnamon, dash ground nutmeg or dash ground cloves
Anise Seed	Fennel seed or a few drops anise extract
Apple Pie Spice	For 1 tsp, substitute ½ tsp ground cinnamon plus ¼ tsp ground nutmeg, ¼ tsp ground allspice and dash ground cloves or ground ginger
Baking Powder	For 1 tsp, substitute ½ tsp cream of tartar plus ¼ tsp baking soda, or ¼ tsp baking soda plus ½ cup yogurt or buttermilk and decrease liquid in recipe by ½ cup
Basil	Oregano or thyme
Bay Leaf	For 1, substitute ¼ tsp crushed bay leaf or ¼ tsp thyme
Bread Crumbs	For ¼ cup, substitute ¼ cup cracker crumbs, ¼ cup cornflake crumbs or ¾ cup rolled oats
Broth	For 1 cup, substitute 1 bouillon cube or 1 tsp instant bouillon granules per 1 cup water
Brown Sugar	For 1 cup, add 2 Tbsp molasses + 1 cup white sugar
Butter	For half of the called-for butter, substitute applesauce, oil or pureed white beans For one-quarter of the called-for butter, substitute flaxseed meal
Buttermilk	Add 1 Tbsp of white wine vinegar or apple cider vinegar to 1 cup of milk Allow to sit at room temperature until the milk thickens Add 1 Tbsp of lemon juice to 1 cup of milk Allow to sit at room temperature until the milk thickens Add 1 ¾ tsp cream of tartar to 1 cup of milk Allow to sit at room temperature until the milk thickens Combine ¾ cup plain homemade yogurt with ¼ cup whole milk Combine ½ cup plain homemade Greek yogurt with ½ cup whole milk Combine ½ cup sour cream with ½ cup whole milk Substitute homemade kefir for buttermilk in a one-to-one ratio, thinning with whole milk as necessary
Capers	Minced green olives
Cardamom	Ground ginger
Chervil	Tarragon or parsley

Chili Powder	Dash bottled hot pepper sauce plus a combination of dried oregano
	and ground cumin
Chives	Green onion, onion, or leek
Chocolate, Semisweet	For 1 ounce, substitute 3 Tbsp semisweet chocolate pieces, or 1
	ounce unsweetened chocolate plus 1 Tbsp sugar
Chocolate, Baking	For 4 ounces, substitute ½ cup unsweetened cocoa powder plus ½
	cup sugar and 1 Tbsp melted butter
Chocolate,	For 1 ounce, substitute 3 Tbsp unsweetened cocoa powder plus 1
Unsweetened	Tbsp melted butter
Cilantro	Parsley
Cinnamon	For 1 tsp, substitute ¼ tsp ground nutmeg or ground allspice
Cloves	Ground allspice, ground cinnamon, or ground nutmeg
Condensed Milk	For one cup, heat 1/3 cup of evaporated milk, 3/4 cup of sugar, and 2
	Tbsp of butter until dissolved
Cooking Oil	For 1 Tbsp, substitute 1 Tbsp olive oil, coconut oil or butter
	For half of the cooking oil in baking, replace with mashed bananas
Cornstarch	For thickening 1 cup cream-based soup, substitute 1 cup broth
	thickened with a roux
	For 1 Tbsp, substitute equal parts potato starch or arrowroot
	starch, or 2 Tbsp flour
Corn Syrup	For 1 cup, substitute 1 cup granulated sugar plus ¼ cup water
Cream Cheese	For 8 ounces, substitute 8 ounces ricotta or Neufchatel cheese
Cream-Based Soups	For 1 cup, substitute 1 cup broth thickened with a roux
Cumin	Chili powder
Curry Powder	Mix ground turmeric, ground ginger, ground black pepper, ground
	coriander, ground cumin, and chili powder
Dill	Use an equal amount of tarragon
Egg	For 1 whole egg, combine 1 Tbsp ground flaxseed with 3 Tbsp
	water to replace 1 egg, or use ½ Tbsp physillum husks + ¼ cup
	water, or use ¼ cup water + 5 tsp ground flax seed
Evaporated Milk	For 1 cup, substitute 2 1/4 cups whole milk simmered until reduced
	to 1 cup, or 34 cup half & half + 2 Tbsp melted butter
Fajita Seasoning	For 1 Tbsp, substitute 1 ½ tsp ground cumin plus ½ tsp dried
	oregano, crushed, ¼ tsp salt, ¼ tsp cayenne pepper, ¼ tsp black
	pepper, 1/8 tsp garlic powder, and 1/8 tsp onion powder
Fennel	Anise seed
Flour, Cake	For 1 cup, substitute 1 cup minus 2 Tbsp all-purpose flour
Flour, Self-rising	For 1 cup, substitute 1 cup all-purpose flour plus 1 tsp baking
	powder, ½ tsp salt and ¼ tsp baking soda
Fruit Liqueur	For 1 Tbsp, substitute 1 Tbsp fruit juice

Garlic	For 1 clove, substitute ½ tsp minced garlic or 1/8 tsp garlic powder
Ginger	Ground allspice, ground cinnamon, ground mace, or ground nutmeg
Gingerroot	For 1 tsp, substitute ¼ tsp ground ginger
Ground Beef	For 1 pound, substitute 1 pound ground turkey, ground chicken breast, cooked lentils, or black beans If you choose lentils or black beans for your burgers or meatballs, mash them slightly so they hold shape better
Half & Half	For 1 cup, substitute 1 Tbsp melted butter plus enough whole milk to make 1 cup
Heavy Cream	For 1 cup, substitute ¾ cup half & half and 2 Tbsp melted butter
Herbs	For any herb, you can substitute 1 tsp dried herb for 1 Tbsp fresh herb
Honey	For 1 cup, substitute 1 ¼ cups granulated sugar plus ¼ cup water
Italian Seasoning	Basil, oregano, or rosemary
Leeks	For 1 cup, substitute 1 cup chopped green onions, 1 cup chopped shallots or 1 cup chopped sweet onions
Lemon Peel or Zest	For 1 tsp, substitute ½ tsp lemon extract, 2 Tbsp lemon juice, or 1 tsp lime zest
Light Cream	For 1 cup, substitute 1 Tbsp melted butter plus enough whole milk to make 1 cup
Lime Peel or Zest	For 1 tsp, substitute ½ tsp lime extract, 2 Tbsp lime juice, or 1 tsp lemon zest
Mace	Ground allspice, ground cinnamon, ground ginger, or ground nutmeg
Marjoram	Basil, thyme, or savory
Mascarpone Cheese	For 8 ounces, substitute 8 ounces regular cream cheese
Mayonnaise	Equal parts sour cream or plain Greek yogurt
Milk	For 1 cup milk, substitute ½ cup evaporated milk plus ½ cup water, or 1 cup water plus ¾ cup nonfat dry milk powder, or equal parts non-dairy milk substitutes like almond milk, rice milk and coconut milk
Whole Milk	1 cup buttermilk plus ½ tsp of baking soda (if baking, reduce baking powder by 2 tsp), or ¼ cup nonfat dry milk and 7/8 cup of water and 2 tsp of butter
Macadamia Nuts	Almonds
Mint	Basil, marjoram, or rosemary
Malaasa	
Molasses	For 1 cup, substitute 1 cup honey
Mustard, Dry	For 1 tsp, substitute 1 Tbsp prepared mustard

Onion, Chopped	½ cup chopped fresh onion, 2 Tbsp dried minced onion or
	½ tsp onion powder interchangeably for flavor
Oregano	Thyme or basil
Parsley	Chervil or cilantro
Pepper, Black	For ½ tsp, substitute ½ tsp ground white pepper or ½ tsp cayenne
	pepper
Pepper, White	For ½ tsp, substitute ½ tsp black pepper
Poblano Pepper	For stuffed peppers, use Anaheim or sweet peppers
	For heat, use canned fire roasted Chile peppers or Serrano peppers
Poultry Seasoning	For 1 tsp, substitute 3/4 tsp dried sage plus a 1/4 tsp blend of any of
	these: dried thyme, dried marjoram, dried savory, ground black
	pepper, and dried rosemary
Pumpkin	For 1 cup, substitute 1 cup cooked, mashed sweet potato or
	butternut squash
Pumpkin Pie Spice	For 1 tsp, substitute ½ tsp ground cinnamon plus ¼ tsp ground
	ginger, ¼ tsp ground allspice, and ½ tsp ground nutmeg
Red pepper, Crushed	Use a dash of bottled hot pepper sauce or an equal amount of black
	pepper
Rice	White rice can be replaced with brown rice, wild rice, quinoa,
	barley, millet, flax, buckwheat or bulgur in equal amounts
Ricotta Cheese	Equal parts cottage cheese
Rosemary	Thyme, tarragon, or savory
Saffron	Dash ground turmeric (for color)
Sage	Poultry seasoning, savory, marjoram, or rosemary
Salt	For 1 tsp, substitute 1 tsp salt free dried herb blends, fresh herbs,
	or garlic (in cooking only)
Savory	Thyme, marjoram, or sage
Seasoning Salt	Equal amount of snipped fresh herbs or equal amount of salt-free
	seasoning blend
Sour Cream	For 1 cup, substitute 1 cup plain Greek or whole milk yogurt
Soy Sauce	For ½ cup, substitute 4 Tbsp Worcestershire sauce mixed with 1
	Tbsp water
Spice Blends	Garlic powder instead of garlic salt
Sugar, Granulated	For 1 cup, substitute 1 cup packed brown sugar, 1 ¼ cup powdered
	sugar, ¾ cup maple syrup and reduce liquid in recipe by 3 Tbsp
Sugar, Powdered	1 cup granulated sugar in a blender
Sun-dried Tomato	For ¼ cup, substitute¼ cup raw tomato, chopped
Taco Seasoning	For 2 Tbsp, combine 1 Tbsp chili powder, ¼ tsp garlic powder, ¼ tsp onion powder, ¼ tsp crushed red pepper flakes, ¼ tsp dried oregano, ½ tsp paprika, 1 ½ tsp
	ground cumin, 1 tsp salt and 1 tsp black pepper and mix well.
	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,

Frugal Real Food Meal Plans

Tarragon	Chervil, dash fennel seed, or dash anise seed
Thai Seasoning	For 1 Tbsp, mix 1 tsp ground coriander, 1 tsp crushed red pepper,
	1/4 tsp salt, 1/4 tsp ground ginger, 1/4 tsp garlic powder, and 1/4 tsp
	onion powder
Thyme	Basil, marjoram, oregano, or savory
Tomato Juice	For 1 cup, substitute ½ cup tomato sauce plus ½ cup water
Tomato Sauce	For 2 cups, substitute ¾ cup tomato paste plus 1 cup water
Vanilla	For 2 Tbsp, substitute 1 whole vanilla bean in its place
Vanilla Beans	For 1, substitute 2 Tbsp vanilla extract in its place
Vegetable Oil	For baking, substitute up to half of called-for vegetable oil with
	applesauce, mashed banana, mashed pumpkin
	For baking, substitute equal parts melted butter
	For frying, substitute equal parts lard, tallow or coconut oil
Vinegar, Balsamic	For 1 Tbsp, substitute 1 Tbsp cider vinegar or red wine vinegar plus
	½ tsp sugar
Vinegar, White	For 1 tsp, substitute 1 tsp lemon/lime juice or 2 tsp white wine or
	pickle juice
Wine, Red	For 1 cup, substitute 1 cup beef or chicken broth or cranberry juice
	in savory recipes or 1 cup cranberry juice in desserts
Wine, White	For 1 cup, substitute 1 cup chicken broth in savory recipes or 1 cup
	apple juice or white grape juice in desserts
Whipping Cream	For 1 cup, substitute 2 cups whipped dessert topping
Yogurt, Fruit-flavor	For 1 cup, substitute 1 cup plain low-fat yogurt with fresh fruit
Plain Yogurt	Equal amounts buttermilk or cottage cheese (blended smooth) or
	sour cream