

OPERATION SUPPLEMENT SAFETY | OPSS.ORG

CAFFEINE & PERFORMANCE

If needed, you can use caffeine to boost your mental & physical performance in certain situations. If you're going to use it, here's how.

USE UP TO 200 MG AS FOLLOWS:



ENDURANCE PERFORMANCE(more than 60 minutes of continuous activity)

• 30-60 minutes before activity.



MENTAL PERFORMANCE

• 15-30 minutes before task.



RESTRICTED SLEEP (less than 6 hours of sleep in 24 hours)

- 1 dose on waking.
- Re-dose every 3-4 hours only if needed.



NIGHT SHIFTS WITH DAYTIME SLEEP

- 30-60 minutes before start of shift.
- Re-dose every 3–4 hours only if needed.

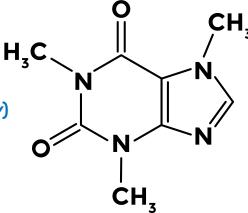


SUSTAINED OPERATIONS (no sleep in 24 hours)

- 1st dose at midnight. Re-dose every 3-4 hours only as needed.
- Use during daytime hours only if needed.

CAFFEINE TIPS:

- Avoid consuming caffeine 4–6 hours before bedtime.
- Do not exceed 600 mg caffeine per 24 hours (800 mg for sustained operations).
- Consider ALL sources of caffeine in your diet, including foods, beverages, and dietary supplements (not limited to the items listed on the next page).
- Caffeine can temporarily improve performance. It is not a substitute for sleep.



How much is 200 mg of caffeine?

(Serving size • Average amount of caffeine in one serving)

Brewed coffee

(8 fl oz/1 cup • 95 mg)



Instant coffee

(1 tsp • 31 mg)



Espresso

(1 fl oz/one "shot" • 63 mg)



Brewed green tea

(8 fl oz/1 cup • 28 mg)



Brewed black tea

(8 fl oz/1 cup • 47 mg)



Cola

(12 fl oz/1 can • 33 mg)



Citrus-flavored soda

(12 fl oz/1 can • 53 mg)



Energy drinks

(16 fl oz/1 can • 160 mg)



RATIONS

Coffee (freeze dried)

(1 package • 80-100 mg)



Mocha First Strike Bar (mini)

(1 bar • 110 mg)



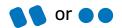
Caffeinated chocolate pudding

(1 container • 200 mg)



Caffeinated gum or mints

(1 piece • 100 mg)



DIETARY SUPPLEMENTS

Caffeine content varies.
Check the product label for the amount of caffeine in each serving, *if available*.
Also look for other sources or names of caffeine, such as yerba maté, green tea, cacao, kola nut, guarana, caffeine anhydrous, and trimethylxanthine.