Mediterranean Pantry Items

The following items are categorized by where they are found in grocery stores.

Baking

Active dry yeast

Agave nectar

Almond extract

Baking powder

Baking soda

Cocoa powder, unsweetened

Cornmeal

Cornstarch

Flour, all-purpose, unbleached; barley; bread;

chickpea; semolina; spelt; whole-wheat;

whole-wheat pastry

Polenta

Salt, kosher

Sea salt, unrefined

Sugar, natural

Vanilla extract

Beans and Legumes

"I prefer using dried beans and legumes, but if you are not used to using them, or might need them to be ready to use in a pinch, I recommend keeping canned varieties on hand as well," says Riolo.

Black beans, canned, reduced-sodium Cannellini beans, canned, reduced-sodium Chickpeas, canned, low-sodium Lentils (brown), canned or dried, no-salt-added

Herbes de Provence (Dried)

Basil

Lavender

Marjoram

Oregano

Rosemary

Sage

Tarragon

Thyme

Italian Specialty

Anchovy fillets, packed in olive oil

Artichoke hearts, canned

Bread crumbs, plain

Capers, packed in water

Espresso coffee

Ladyfingers

Olives, green, black, Kalamata, Niçoise, and Gaeta

Roasted red peppers, jar

Tomato paste

Tomato purée

Tomatoes, canned, low-sodium

(diced and fire-roasted)

Tuna, canned, packed in water

Miscellaneous

Dijon mustard

Garlic

Granola, low-fat, almond

Honey

Nuts and Dried Fruit

Almonds, blanched

Chestnuts, jar, whole, roasted or steamed

Dates

Pine nuts

Pistachios, shelled

Raisins

Walnuts

Oils and Vinegars

Corn or vegetable oil, expeller-pressed

Nonstick cooking spray

Olive oil, extra-virgin

Vinegar, apple cider, balsamic, white, distilled

Pasta and Grains

Bulgur wheat

Couscous

Orzo

Quinoa

Rice, arborio, basmati, medium-grain, wild

Whole-wheat pasta, spaghetti, penne rigate

Spices and Seeds

Allspice

Anise seeds

Caraway seeds

Cayenne pepper

Chili powder

Cinnamon and cinnamon sticks

Cloves, whole and ground

Coriander, ground

Crushed red pepper

Cumin

Fennel seeds

Flaxseeds

Ginger, ground

Green cardamom, ground and pods

Juniper berries

Mint

Nutmeg

Paprika

Peppercorns

Saffron

Seafood seasoning

Sesame seeds

Sumac

Turmeric

Za'atar

Stocks

"I prefer making homemade stocks and freezing them for future use," says Riolo.

"However, it's also good to keep a few boxes on hand in a pinch."

Chicken stock, reduced-sodium

Vegetable stock, reduced-sodium

Items for the Fridge

(Use local and organic if possible)

Carrots

Celery

Cheese, Parmesan, Romano, mozzarella, feta, and goat

Eggs

Fresh Seasonal Produce

Herbs, fresh

Lemons

Lettuces, assorted

Milk, skim

Onions

Potatoes

Shallots

Sweet potatoes

Yogurt, plain, fat-free