The start of Modern Intermittent Fasting...



Intermittent fasting is not new, I think we all know this, but our recent interest in I.F. dates back to about 2006.

Through a combination of serendipity and the rise of the internet, 2006 is when I wrote Eat Stop Eat and Martin Berkhan started his blog Leangains.com

Before almost any other popular source of IF info you may know of today, there was Eat Stop Eat and Lean Gains.

Now I can't speak for Martin, but I can tell you that from my experience, Intermittent Fasting was not some anti-thesis to Calories In Calories out.

Nor was its a refute of the Insulin-Carbohydrate model (the idea that carbs and insulin, not calories cause fat gain).

In truth neither of these existed in their current form back in 2006-2007.

It also wan't involved with being primal, or carnivore or vegan or any other style of eating.

No, Intermittent Fasting, both Eat Stop Eat and the 16:8 model popularized by Martin, were born out of a refute of the EXTREMELY popular concept that you had to eat ever 2-3 hours.

The 'Many Meals' approach.

In the early 2,000's almost EVERYONE from doctors and dieticians to fitness coaches and bodybuilders were advocate the need to eat ever 2-3 hours in order to keep the 'metabolism revving'

And if you didn't eat every 2-3 hours your metabolism would slow and you would gain weight.

(Back then, eating 'too little' was suggested to be a cause of weight gain.)

Now a lot has changed in the last 17 years, but I think it's important to understand the context in which IF was born - We were being told to eat every 2-3 hours, and we began to question this logic.

This is where IF came from.

Date: 2023-04-10

Words: 300

Time to read: 1 min

Newer Older

11th April 2023

Living life in Fear... Of Food

10th April 2023 A Letter to a Friend

Brad Pilon © 2022-2025

Archive RSS feed

Made with Montaigne and bigmission