

McDonalds Debuts Meat-Free McNuggets

VOCABULARY WORDS

1. Batter (Noun) /'bætər/ a liquid mixture of flour, egg, and milk or water used in cooking
Example: I need 10 boxes of pancake batter for the event.
2. Trial (Verb) /'traɪəl/ to test something to see how well it works
Example: The scientists are trialing the medicine that they just invented.
3. depend on (Phrasal Verb) /dɪ'pend ɒn/ to be affected or influenced by something
Example: The family depends on each other for emotional support.
4. Demand (Noun) /dɪ'mænd/ a need for something to be sold, supplied, done, etc.
Example: She always has a lot of demands but doesn't know how to show gratitude to people.
5. Receptive (Adjective) /rɪ'septɪv/ willing to accept new ideas, suggestions, etc.
Example: The owner is very receptive to her employees' suggestions.
6. Permanently (Adverb) /'pɜːrmənəntli/ in a way that lasts forever
Example: They are planning to migrate and live permanently in the UK.



McDonald's has announced that it is introducing meat-free McNuggets, with Germany the first country to get them. McNuggets made from chicken have been on the company's menu since the 1980s. But at the end of February 2023 it began selling McPlant Nuggets made from peas, corn and wheat, with a tempura batter.

They're the second product that McDonald's has developed with Beyond Meat, a California-based maker of plant-based meats. McDonald's has been selling a McPlant burger since 2021. McDonald's said that the new McNuggets were trialed in nine restaurants in the Stuttgart area in August 2022, and they'll now be available in more than 1,400 restaurants across Germany. It has now also begun selling the McPlant burger in Germany.

The company said that these products may be introduced to other countries, but this will depend on customer demand. European customers have been more receptive to McDonald's plant-based meat products than those in the US.

The McPlant burger is now permanently on the menu in the United Kingdom, Ireland, Austria and the Netherlands. In January 2023, McDonald's introduced the Double McPlant burger in the UK and Ireland.

But in the US, McDonald's ended a trial of the McPlant burger in summer 2022 without announcing any future plans for its return to restaurants. Beyond Meat began selling plant-based chicken in US stores in 2021. It has also co-developed plant-based products with other restaurants, including KFC and Panda Express.

DISCUSSION

1. What are your country's biggest fast-food chains?
2. Have you tried any plant-based meat products? How did you find them?
3. How receptive would you say people in your country are to plant-based meats?
4. How often do you eat at McDonald's? What do you usually order?
5. What fast-food would you have a hard time giving up?