

\* Wait a few minutes and take blood pressure again. If it's still high, contact your doctor immediately.

## Blood Pressure Measurement

Don't smoke, exercise, drink caffeinated beverages or alcohol within 30 minutes of measurement. Take at least two readings 1 minute apart in morning before taking medications, and in evening before dinner. **RECORD** ALL RESULTS.

Use properly calibrated and validated instrument. Check the cuff size and fit.

Place the bottom of the cuff above the bend of the elbow.

least 5 minutes with your left arm resting comfortably on a flat surface at heart level. Sit calmly and don't talk.

Rest in a chair for at

Make sure you're relaxed. Sit still in a chair with your feet flat on the floor with your back straight and supported.

American Heart Association Blood Pressure Categories	<b>Systolic Reading</b> (upper number)		<b>Diastolic Reading</b> (lower number)
NORMAL	under 120	and	under 80
ELEVATED	120–129	and	under 80
HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE STAGE 1	130–139	or	80–89
HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE STAGE 2	140 or higher	or	90 or higher
HYPERTENSIVE CRISIS Consult your doctor immediately	180 or higher	and/ or	120 or higher



Learn more at **www.heart.org/HBP**