

TRAINING PLAN

Improver Plan - 10km

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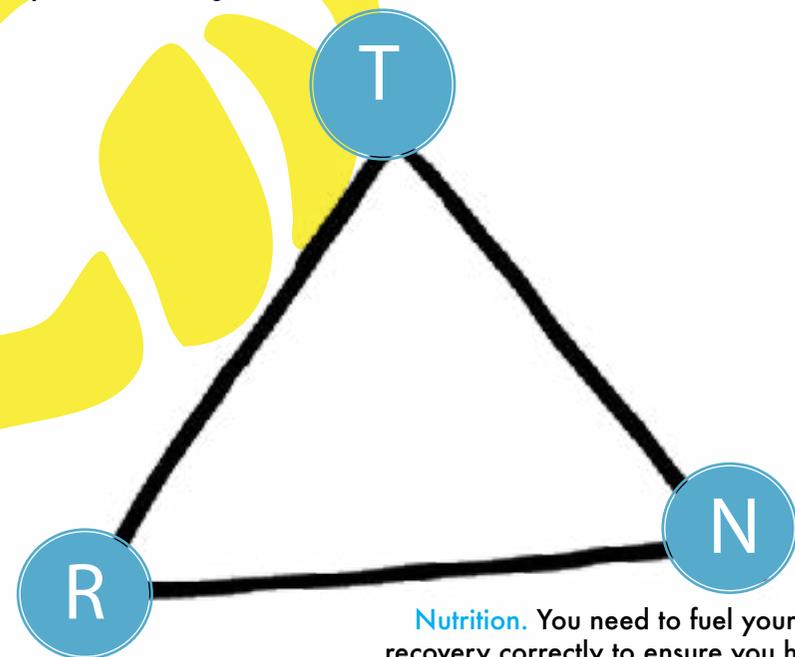
This plan.

This improve marathon plan is designed to get you ready to run a marathon and improve on a recent marathon performance or step up from 10km and half marathon races to your first full marathon. It can be used to cover a race of paces from 3 hours right through to 4.5 hours and assumes you are ready to run for 75-90 minutes continuously before you start.

Keeping it all in balance.

Performance training, and developing your fitness can seem complicated at times with lots of information and conflicting advice. In truth it can be kept pretty simple. The key is the training triangle you see to the right. Most of us think about the training sessions we need to do to become stronger, fitter or faster. In reality you won't really make gains until the other two sides of the triangle - the nutrition, and the rest and recovery are also considered as much focus and attention. As you increase your training keep the triangle in balance by improving your nutrition by ensuring you listen to you body and respect its need to rest in order to improve.

Training. Your running, cross training and conditioning sessions contained within this plan need to progress over the weeks and get more specific to the distance for which you are trianing. .



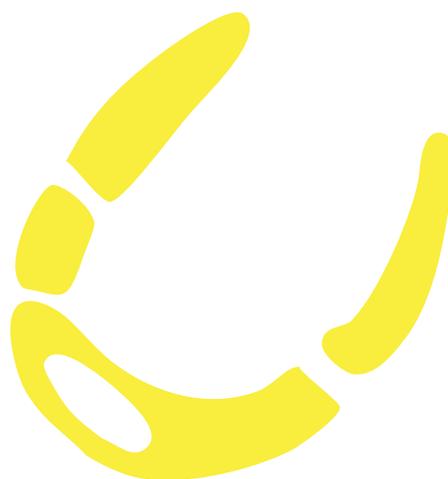
Rest. Recovery between sessions is as critical to success as the training itself. Your body improves and progresses during these rest phases, rest days and as you sleep.

Nutrition. You need to fuel your training and recovery correctly to ensure you have the right macro and micro nutrients in the body to both have the energy to train hard, but also heal muscles and cells between sessions and keep you immune system, blood and bones strong.

Wk	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1.	REST	Recovery run: 30 - 45 mins	Threshold run: 4 x 5 mins @ with 2 min jog recovery	Cross training 40 mins + conditioning	REST	Hills: 40-50 minute run including 10 x 45 second fast up hill with a jog back recovery	Long Run: 65 mins conversational
2.	REST	Recovery run: 40 mins	Threshold run: 5 x 5 mins @ with 2 min jog recovery	Cross training 40 mins + conditioning	REST	Hills: 5 mins @ threshold + 10 x 45 second fast up hill with a jog back recovery within 45 min run	Long Run: 70 mins conversational
3.	REST	Easy run: 40-50 mins	Threshold run: 5 x 5 mins @ with 90 secs jog recovery	Cross training 40-50 mins + conditioning	REST	Hills: 5 mins @ threshold + 10 x 50 second fast up hill with a jog back recovery within 45 min run	Long Run: 75 mins conversational
4.	REST	Easy run: 50 mins, pre breakfast if possible.	Threshold run: 6 x 5 mins @ with 90 secs jog recovery	Cross training 40-50 mins + conditioning	REST	Hills: 6 mins @ threshold + 10 x 50 second fast up hill with a jog back recovery + 6 mins @ threshold within 45 min run	Long Run: 80 mins conversational

Wk	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
5.	REST	30 mins easy run	Progression of 10 mins easy, 10 mins steady, 10 mins threshold effort	40 mins easy cross trianing or rest	REST	Parkrun or self timed 5km time trial	Long Run: 60 minutes
6.	REST	Easy run: 50-60 mins, pre breakfast if possible.	6 x 3 minutes at 5km pace with 75s rest within 40-50 minute run	Cross training 40-50 mins + conditioning	REST	Threshold run: 3 x 10 mins @ with 120 secs jog recovery	Long Run: 90 mins conversational
7.	REST	Easy run: 50-60 mins, pre breakfast if possible.	8 x 3 minutes with the odd numbers at threshold effort, the evens at 3-5km effort with 75s rest.	Cross training 40-50 mins + conditioning	REST	10 mins easy + 20 mins at 10km pace + 10 mins easy	Long Run: 90 mins conversational
8.	REST	Easy run: 50-60 mins, pre breakfast if possible.	6 x 4 minutes at 5km pace with 80s rest within 40-50 minute run	Cross training 40-50 mins + conditioning	REST	45 minutes with the final 25 at 10km pace	Long run 100 mins covnersational

Wk	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
9	REST	Easy run: 50-60 mins, pre breakfast if possible.	15 mins easy pace 15 mins steady pace 15 mins nearing threshold	Cross training 40 mins + conditioning	REST	parkrun or self timed 5km time trial	70 min conversational paced run
10.	REST	4 x 3 mins at 10km pace with 2 min jog recovery withing a 40 minute run	30 mintue recovery run	Cross training 30 mins or rest	REST	20 minute jog	10k Race!!



Rest (R)

To help your body cope with the workload, rest is going to be as important a part of your training schedule as the running itself. Listen to your body and take heed of any warning signs. If you feel fatigued even before you've run a step, find yourself thinking up excuses not to run or start suffering a series of minor injuries; you probably need more time off. Taking enough rest allows physical and mental recovery and gives your body the time to adapt to your workload.

Threshold Runs (THR)

After the long run threshold runs are probably your most valuable workouts. They are run at a controlled brisk pace, about 80–85% of your MHR, you'll only be capable of uttering a couple of words to your training partners. Tempo/threshold runs improve your lactate threshold (the speed above which your body struggles to cope with the lactic acid created by burning energy without oxygen), your running economy and aerobic capacity .

Long Runs (LR)

Long runs are vital in your plan and key to racing well in long distance races from 5km - marathon. At first, concentrate on increasing the time on your feet rather than worrying about distance. Start off by heading out for at least an hour and run at a conversational pace or 6/10 effort. Gradually this will build to 75% of WHR as you start to practice periods of race pace running. These runs improve your muscular endurance and condition your body to burn fat as its primary fuel source.

Interval Training (IT)

Intervals help to boost specific race pace speed and involve running timed efforts with a controlled recovery. The effort level is around 85-100% of your max heart rate, depending on the duration of the event you are training for and the length and volume of intervals used. A typical example might be 6 x 3 minutes @ 5km race pace with a 90 second jog recovery.

Rac Pace (MP)

Understanding the pace and effort you intend on running your race at is very important. Pace judgment and patience on the big day will be crucial to running your best 5km-marathon.

Warming Up/Warm down (WU)

When you are going to do any faster running such as Hills, Threshold Runs, Intervals or a race, it is important to warm up gradually. A 10-15 minute jog lets your muscles warm up and improve their range of movement.

Cross-Training & core conditioning (XT)

It is important that your training is balanced with some non-impact activities such as swimming, cycling, rowing, the cross trainer etc, otherwise you are more likely to pick up an annoying injury that will set back your training. More experienced runners should also add cross training to their regime. Endurance running, especially the marathon, requires whole body-conditioning. To achieve this you should aim to work a variety of muscle groups and not just your legs. Be careful not to make the cross-training, whether it is core conditioning, lifting weights, using an elliptical trainer or practicing Pilates, so intense that you are left too tired for your running.

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