

## TRAINING PLAN

## Beginner Plan - 10km



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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.

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| Wk | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | Sunday |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1. | REST | $2 \times 10 \mathrm{~min}$ easy run with a 5 min brisk walk recovery | REST | $2 \times 12$ min easy run with a 3 min brisk walk recovery | REST | REST or $20-30$ min aerobic x training easy | $2 \times 15$ min easy run with a 5 min brisk walk recovery |
| 2. | REST | 20 mins recovery run | REST | 20 mins recovery run | REST | REST or $20-30 \mathrm{~min}$ aerobic x training easy | 30 mins easy run |
| 3. | REST | 10 min easy run then $3 \times(3 \mathrm{~min} @$ threshold with 2 min walk/iog recovery) | REST | 30 min easy run | REST | REST or 30 min aerobic $x$ training easy | 40 mins easy run (if needed do as $2 \times 20$ mins with a 5 min brisk walk) |
| 4. | REST | 10 min easy run then $3 \times(4 \min @$ threshold with 2 min walk/iog recovery) then 10 mins easy run | REST | 30 min run as: 10 mins easy, 10 mins steady (very slightly faster) 10 mins easy | REST | REST or 30 min aerobic $x$ training easy | 40 mins all easy |

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| 5. | REST | 30 mins easy run | REST | 40 mins easy run | REST | Parkrun or self timed 5 km time trial | Recovery run 30 mins |
| 6. | REST | $3 \times 5$ mins @ threshold/2 mins jog recovery within 30 min run | REST | 35 min easy run | REST | REST or 30 min aerobic $x$ training middle 20 is 2 mins harder/3 mins easy x 4 | Long run 50 mins |
| 7. | REST | $4 \times 5$ mins @ threshold/90 secs jog recovery within a 40 min run | REST | 10 mins easy pace 10 mins steady pace 10 mins nearing threshold | REST | REST or 30 mins aerobic x train with the last 15 mins harders than the first + S\&C | Long run 50-60 mins |
| 8. | REST | $4 \times 6$ mins @ threshold/2mins jog recovery within a 30-40 min run | REST | $\begin{aligned} & 20 \text { easy + } 20 \\ & \text { steady (no recov- } \\ & \text { ery) } \end{aligned}$ | REST | REST or 40 mins x train middle 20 is 2 mins harder/3mins easy $x 4$ | Long run 60-70 mins |

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| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 9 | REST | Fartlek session of 6 mins, $5 \mathrm{mins}, 4 \mathrm{mins}, 3 \mathrm{mins}$, $2 \mathrm{mins}, 1 \mathrm{~min}(90 \mathrm{secs}$ jog recovery) | REST | 15 mins easy pace 15 mins steady pace 15 mins nearing threshold | REST | REST or 30 mins aerobic $x$ train | 40 mins easy run |
| 10. | REST | $5 \times 3$ mins @ threshold/2 mins recovery within a 30 min run | REST | 20 mins easy | 20 mins aerobic X/T easy | REST | 10k Race!! |

## Glossary

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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 5 km - 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.

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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 $6 \times 3$ minutes @ 5 km 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 5 km -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 1015 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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