

# Marathon Training Plan



The goal of this plan is to safely build your mileage and fitness to prepare to run 26.2 miles. The plan starts with easy run or run/walk workouts and slowly builds on workout duration, frequency, and intensity each week. As we progress from steady aerobic efforts to hills, we aim to build leg strength. As we transition from hills to faster paced running, the leg strength we built will lead to speed. If at any point the workouts feel like they are too much, ease up your effort to what you can safely and comfortably manage. Every athlete and every body is different! As always, staying healthy and injury free is our #1 goal! If you are new to running or have had a long break from running, aim ease into the workouts with a run/walk approach and target the lower end of the ranges. If you are building on fitness, aim push the upper end of the ranges and challenge yourself!

DATE	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN
1	35-45min STEADY RUN	30-40min CROSS TRAINING	35-45min STEADY RUN	30-40min CROSS TRAINING	30-35min EZ RUN/WALK	6-8MI STEADY RUN	REST
2	40-50min STEADY RUN	30-40min CROSS TRAINING	40-50min STEADY RUN	30-40min CROSS TRAINING	30-35min EZ RUN/WALK	8-10MI STEADY RUN	REST
3	45-55min STEADY RUN	30-40min CROSS TRAINING	45-55min HILL RUN	30-40min CROSS TRAINING	30-35min EZ RUN/WALK	10-12MI STEADY RUN	REST
4	20-30min STEADY RUN	REST	20-30min STEADY RUN	REST	25-35min CROSS TRAINING	5-6MI STEADY RUN	REST
5	50-60min STEADY RUN	35-45min CROSS TRAINING	50-60min HILL RUN	35-45min CROSS TRAINING	35-40min EZ RUN/WALK	12-14MI STEADY RUN	REST
6	50-60min STEADY RUN	35-45min CROSS TRAINING	50-60min HILL RUN	35-45min CROSS TRAINING	35-40min EZ RUN/WALK	14-16MI STEADY RUN	REST
7	55-65min STEADY RUN	35-45min CROSS TRAINING	55-65min TEMPO	35-45min CROSS TRAINING	35-40min EZ RUN/WALK	16-18MI STEADY RUN	REST
8	20-30min STEADY RUN	REST	20-30min STEADY RUN	REST	25-35min CROSS TRAINING	7-8MI STEADY RUN	REST
9	55-65min STEADY RUN	40-50min CROSS TRAINING	55-65min TEMPO	40-50min CROSS TRAINING	35-40min EZ RUN/WALK	18-20MI STEADY RUN	REST
10	60-70min STEADY RUN	40-50min CROSS TRAINING	60-70min SPEED	40-50min CROSS TRAINING	35-40min EZ RUN/WALK	20-22MI STEADY RUN	REST
11	60-70min STEADY RUN	40-50min CROSS TRAINING	60-70min SPEED	40-50min CROSS TRAINING	30-35min EZ RUN/WALK	10-12MI STEADY RUN	REST
12	40-50min STEADY RUN	30-40min CROSS TRAINING	40-50min TEMPO	REST	25-30min EZ RUN/WALK	5-6MI STEADY RUN	REST
13	20-30min STEADY RUN	REST	20-30min STEADY RUN	15-20min STEADY RUN	REST	15-20min EZ RUN/WALK	<b>RACE!</b>

**EZ:** Super easy effort (\*optional: run/walk or walk)

**STEADY:** Conversational pace at a moderate effort: you should still be able to speak full sentences while running (\*optional: run/walk or walk)

**CROSS TRAINING (XT):** Pick an activity that will get your heart rate up. Examples: ride your bike or a spin bike, swim, row, jog, walk, home strength work. The goal is to get the body moving and heart rate up from a moderate effort.

**HILLS:** Find a hill (or bridge or stairs) that takes 1-3 minutes to run or walk up, and do 3-6 repeats with an easy walk/jog back down. Work the "up" part of the hill at a hard effort.

**TEMPO:** After a 5-10 minute warm up, alternate 3 minutes of moderate paced running or walking with 2 minutes of easy paced running or walking; repeat 4-6 times.

**SPEED:** After a 5-10 minute warm up, alternate 2 minutes of fast paced running or walking with 1 minute of easy paced running or walking; repeat 6-8 times [add a fun twist: instead of time, alternate speed between mailboxes or telephone poles]

**REST:** Rest days can be full days off (no exercise) or try to treat your body to some form of active recovery. Examples include: yoga, meditation, bodywork, massage, walk/hike with the family, etc.