

# YOGA







Keep feet flat on floor. Rest hands flat on thighs. Thighs flat on seat. This is a good meditation pose.



Keep knees together. Heels apart to form V-shape to support body weight. Very good meditation pose.

#### BACKWARD BEND



Kneel & bend back. Drop head down. Hold heels with hands. Breathe freely - HOLD.

## HOLDING HANDS



Hold hands behind back, If you can't make hands touch use a belt to connect them. HOLD then change hands over.

## FORWARD BEND



Stand relaxed. Breathe out. Bend down from the waist. Inhale. Lift arms back and up. Stretch as far as comfortable -HOLD.

## FORWARD BEND #2



Stand straight, arms at side. Lift arms up. Bend forward. Try grasping ankles. Relax - HOLD.

## BACKWARD BEND



Breathe in. Gently arch backwards. Keep hands in line with spine. HOLD - breathe out. Stretch as far as comfortable.

## FORWARD DIVE



Breathe in. Keep legs straight. Lean forward and push arms back and up. Breathe out - HOLD.

## FLAT-BACK STRETCH

Good for posture, circulation **Exercises lungs** 

breathe and move in the same rhythm



Breathe in. Gently raise arms to 90°. HOLD. Breathe out. Slowly ease back down. HOLD:

## LEGS AT 90° STRETCH



Breathe in. Support body with both hands. Gently raise both legs 90°. HOLD - Slowly ease back. Breathe out.

## **ROCKING CHAIR**



Hands behind knees. Knees almost touching head. Slowly, gently rock back & forth. For comfort, use cushion on floor.

## CORPSE POSITION



Lie flat on back, legs, arms apart. Roll head from side to side. Shake shoulders and arms gently.

## SHOULDERSTAND



Lie flat on floor. Relax for a moment. Lift legs over chest. Support back with hands. Lift trunk to vertical position. HOLD.

## PLOUGH POSTURE



Start from Shoulderstand position. Lower feet to floor or as far as you can. Breathe freely. Relax. HOLD.

#### BACK STRETCH

Loosens & strengthens hamstrings, back, keep feet together & legs and spine. grasp ankle & heel



Start from sitting position. Exhale and lower the body, grasping feet. Head rests on knees. Breathe freely. Inhale. HOLD.

### COBRA POSITION



Lie down and relax. Bend arms. palms flat on floor. Push head and body up. Breathe freely. Hold for 10 seconds.

#### BOW POSTURE



Lie down and relax. Bend knees. Grasp ankles. Inhale. Lift head and upper body. Gently pull legs back. Hold for 10 seconds.

#### SIMPLY STANDING



Stand and relax. Keep the whole body straight. Pull in stomach. Relax arms, hands. Inhale deeply. Exhale. Stand very still.

## TREE POSTURE 1



hand position: est both hands flat on top of head hard if this position is too

difficult, stand with

both feet on floor

Alternative

Stand upright, balance on right foot. Join hands overhead. HOLD. Breathe Freely. Change to left foot. HOLD.

## TREE POSTURE 2



Stand and relax. Lift left arm and bend right leg up. Grasp foot. Pull gently. Keep body straight. HOLD. Change to right foot.



## $\mathsf{Y} \mathsf{O} \mathsf{G} \mathsf{A}$







Find relaxed balance in the standing position. Join hands above head, palms facing up. Gently swing from left to right.

## SQUAT STRETCH



Start from standing position. Breathe in. Rise on toes. Lower body into squat position. HOLD. Breathe out. Relax.

#### EASY SITTING POSITION



Keep head, neck, spine vertically aligned. Rest hands on knees. Use cushion for comfort. Breathe evenly,

## LOTUS POSITION



Knees on floor. Body and spine straight. Rest both feet on thighs. Keep shoulders square and slightly back. Sit perfectly still.

#### CROSS STRETCH



Start from standing position. Take a step forward. Left leg flat on floor. Arch arms backwards. HOLD. Change legs over.

#### FLYING POSTURE



Sit comfortably. Relax for a few moments. Stretch both arms wide. Move arms gently up and down. Breathe freely.

#### CHEST STRETCH



Sit comfortably. Stretch hands behind back. Clasp hands. Stretch arms back as far as comfortable. Hold for 6 seconds.

## BACK STRETCH



Sit comfortably. Drop head down to floor. Lift arms up behind back. Clasp hands. Stretch up as far as comfortable. Hold for 6 seconds.

## HEAD DOWN STRETCH



Start from kneeling position. While inhaling, lower head to floor. Clasp ankles. HOLD. Exhale - move back to kneeling position.

## CAT'S BACK STRETCH



1. Position yourself on all fours. Palms flat on floor. Breathe in. Arch back down, HOLD, Breathe out. 2. Arch back up. HOLD.

## KNEE STRETCH



Lie flat on back, Breathe in, Lift both knees onto chest. Place arms around knees. Pull gently, HOLD. Breathe out - relax.

## QUARTER HEADSTAND



Kneel, with head down. Straighten legs and lift body while bringing in feet towards the body. Keep torso straight. HOLD.

#### ABDOMINAL UPLIFT



position. Exhale through nostrils and mouth. Draw abdomen in and up. HOLD - relax

## KNEE PUSH



Start from sitting position. Cross legs with knees in front. Place hands on knees and push down. Breathe freely, HOLD.

#### SIMPLE POSTURE



Start from Lotus position. Exhale. Bend forward while placing arms around back with hands clasped. Breathe freely. HOLD.

## RIGHT ANGLE STRETCH



Start from sitting position. Keep legs together and flat on floor. Push palms hard against floor without lifting the body. HOLD.

## INHALATION

Breathe deeply and fully to a comfortable limit. Let the abdomen expand and the diaphragm move down - freely and relaxed.

#### **RETAINING PAUSE EXHALATION**

Hold the air in the inflated lungs - without straining or discomfort. This promotes internal mixing of fresh and stale air.

#### It is important to expel all air from the lungs in a smooth, continuous process. Take your time to exhale freely and without effort.

smooth, continuous

## **EMPTYING PAUSE**

Once the lungs are completely empty, pause for a second or two but not so long as to leave you gasping for breath.

relaxed, effortlessly

## HISSING BREATH

Lips slightly parted, breathe Control of mental activity can in through mouth. A hissing passes between tip of tongue and teeth

rapid in / out breathing rapidly through both nostrils blocking one nostril at a time inhalation through mouth Union of Mental Mastery

#### HATHA YOGA

A practical path, calming and health promoting. The exercises on this chart are part of Hatha Yoga

Union of Bodily Mastery

## **RAJA YOGA**

release powerful spiritual and physical energy leading to a calm mind and a healthy body

#### KARMA YOGA

Teaches selfless activity without reward or praise. The heart is purified, the ego subdued, all actions are considered.

Union of Action & Service

## **BHAKTI YOGA**

The Divine is seen as the embodiment of love and it is worshiped through emotional prayer, chanting and personal surrender.

Union of Love & Devotion

## continuous, even breathing retaining air in inflated lungs

**PURIFYING BREATH** Breathe in and out rapidly. Contract stomach muscles sharply and relax again. Expand and draw in abdomen - concentrate

### BELLOWS BREATH

Inhale and exhale through both nostrils. Repeat 15 times. Finally take single deep nostril breath, hold and breathe out smoothly.

## **SUN & MOON BREATH** Block one nostril with thumb and breathe in -

slowly, deeply. Repeat 15 times, then change over to the other nostril

# sound is produced when air