

# **Candle Flame & Music Meditation**

# A gentle practice for focus, presence, and inner stillness

#### **Purpose**

This meditation combines the calming effect of music with the visual focus of a candle flame. Watching the flame, then its afterimage, helps quiet the mind and deepen awareness.

#### **What You Need**

- A candle
- A lighter or matches
- A comfortable chair or cushion
- A dark room or space
- Music that feels peaceful and uplifting (instrumental works well)

#### **How to Practice**

### 1. Prepare the Space

- Turn off all lights.
- o Place the candle where it is safe and stable, at eye level if possible.
- o Start your chosen music at a gentle volume.

#### 2. Focus on the Flame

- Sit comfortably with your back straight.
- o Gaze softly at the center of the flame. Allow your eyes to rest there without straining.

#### 3. Close Your Eyes & Watch the Afterimage

- o After 20–40 seconds, gently close your eyes.
- o You will see the outline or "imprint" of the flame in your vision.
- o Keep your focus on this afterimage as long as it lasts.

#### 4. Repeat

- o When the afterimage fades, open your eyes and return to the flame.
- o Repeat this cycle several times, letting yourself sink deeper into stillness with each time.

## Tips

- Breathe slowly and evenly throughout the practice.
- If your mind wanders, simply return to the flame or its afterimage.
- Try for 5–10 minutes at first, gradually increasing over time.

### **Benefits**

- Enhances focus and mental clarity
- Promotes deep relaxation
- Encourages mindfulness and presence
- Can help train your awareness for other meditative practices

