







# How To Create a Self Care Plan

If it's difficult for you to maintain a constant balanced lifestyle, creating a Self Care Plan will help you manage your current lifestyle and help you cope with future stress. Here's some easy tips on creating your own Self Care Plan.

## 1. Identify Self Care Goals

It's important to <u>assess your current Self Care Level</u>. Consider self care activities you currently engage in, and identify other areas that need improvement. Self Care areas can include:

Physical Health

- Emotional Health
- Psychological/Mental Health
- Professional Workplace
- Social Network

Are there activities you currently do to support your overall well-being in those categories? Are you more active in some areas than others? Determine if there's an area that needs work.

#### 2. Reflect

Think about your current activities for self care. Is what you're currently doing working? What isn't working? What can you do to add positive self care activities into your life?

#### 3. Create a Self Care Plan

Make a plan for an area that you want to work on and jot the plan down in your calendar or <u>daily planner</u>. Aim to incorporate a positive activity in that area that you can implement on a continual basis.

For example, if an area you want to work on is your Physical Health, a positive activity could be "include more vegetables" or "sleep 8 hours a night".

Your Self Care plan doesn't have to be elaborate or complicated. The goal is to create a plan that is realistic.

Here are some simple Self Care Plan templates.

## Template 1

# PLAN FOR PHYSICAL SELF CARE:

Get a massage, do yoga, and maintain proper nutrition.

# PLAN FOR PSYCHOLOGICAL SELF CARE

Know my triggers, don't push my limits, go out in nature, and read for fun.

### Template 2



## Template 3



## 4. Implement your Plan

Try to implement one activity in each area once a week. Build a plan that suits your life by making positive changes that are small but doable. Don't let your self care plans create even more stress.

#### 5. Evaluate

After trying out your Self Care Plan for a month or two, step back and gauge your progress. Is your plan successful in creating a more balanced lifestyle?

If you're losing motivation to pursue your plan, consider whether the activities you're implementing are the best for you, or if you need to find a different activity that works better.

## 6. Rinse and Repeat

Implement your Plan for a month or two and then reevaluate your plan. Revise your plan as needed.

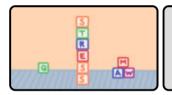
## Helpful Tips

- Set reminders in your <u>daily planner</u>, putting post-its around the house, or posting your plan on the fridge so that your Self Care Plan isn't forgotten.
- It takes at least 6 weeks let any activity become a habit. Don't get discouraged if you forget about your plan. It takes time.
- Create a Self Care Plan that you look forward to accomplishing. The goal of creating a plan is to increase your overall well-being, not create another set of tasks that become a chore to check off.

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