

Get a power surge

A do-anywhere plan for quick invigoration

THE TRAINERS Deborah Kern, Ph.D., director of lifestyle enrichment at Lake Austin Spa Resort in Austin, Texas, and Paul Frediani, a senior trainer at Equinox Fitness Club in New York City, created this unique blend of yoga, pilates, tai chi and good old-fashioned strength moves.

THE PLAN The rhythmic breathing during each move delivers extra oxygen to the brain, making you feel more alert. The exercises also pump blood to the joints and muscles, which warms you up. Do them in order. (Count it as a strength workout on the log below.) Or choose a few to jump-start your normal sweat session or for an immediate pick-me-up.

TECHNIQUE TIP With each motion, visualize yourself collecting energy from around you and pouring it into your body.

Your mission this month

Fire up your breathing. Kapalabhati, or "breath of fire," is an energizing trick that involves making quick, sharp exhalations through your nose, pulling in your belly each time to expel the air (and tone abs). Don't force the inhalations; let your lungs expand on their own. Start with 20 breaths in 30 seconds, then work up to a minute. Finish by breathing deeply.



Log your progress for guaranteed success! Jot down your cardio and energy-boosting strength workouts here, or go to Self.com for a printable log.

WEEK 1	WEEK 2	WEEK 3	WEEK 4	WEEK 5
Cardio	Cardio	Cardio	Cardio	Cardio
Cardio Strength	Strength	Strength	Strength	Strength
Cardio	Cardio	Cardio	Cardio	Cardio
Strength	Strength	Strength	Strength	Strength
Cardio	Cardio	Cardio	Cardio	Cardio
Strength	Strength	Strength	Strength	Strength
Cardio	Cardio	Cardio	Cardio	Cardio
Strength	Strength	Strength	Strength	Strength
Cardio	Cardio	Cardio	Cardio	Cardio
Strength	Strength	Strength	Strength	Strength
Cardio	Cardio	Cardio	Cardio	Cardio
Strength	Strength	Strength	Strength	Strength
Cardio	Cardio	Cardio	Cardio	Cardio
Strength	Strength	Strength	Strength	Strength

Recharge fast!

SQUAT AND REACH works legs, butt, abs

Stand with feet shoulder-width apart, toes pointed out slightly, knees bent in a semisquat. Keeping left arm bent against rib cage, reach right arm overhead to left (as shown) until you feel a stretch along right side. Hold for three breaths; return to start. Switch arms. Do three reps to each side.

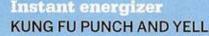
SELF



body bonus

JUMP IN PLACE works legs

Keeping muscles relaxed and knees and elbows soft, do a series of low jumps—just a few inches off floor-in place (as shown). Inhale for five jumps, then exhale for five jumps. Work up to 100 jumps, rest for five breaths and repeat.



works legs, arms, abs Stand with feet wide and parallel and lower into a semisquat, chest high. Tuck arms to rib cage, elbows bent, palms facing in and hands in fists. Inhale, then yell while exhaling and punching right arm forward, rotating palm down (as shown). Inhale as you retract arm; repeat with left arm. Alternate

arms for one minute.

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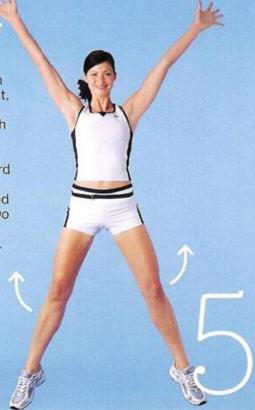
Instant energizer STEAM ENGINE works abs

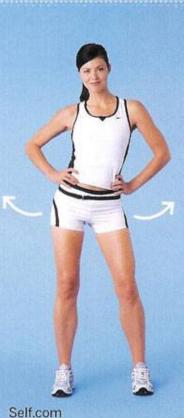
Stand with feet shoulder-width apart, hands clasped behind head, elbows out to sides. Inhale, then exhale and bring left knee to waist height as you twist torso to left (as shown). Keep chest high, abs tight and elbows wide throughout. Inhale, returning to start, and repeat to opposite side. Alternate sides for one minute.

Instant energizer

STAR JUMPER works legs

Stand with feet hip-width apart. Inhale as you squat, keeping heels on floor and chest high, and touch floor with hands. Exhale and leap up, arms and legs wide, reaching toward ceiling (as shown). Land softly with knees bent and squat again right away. Do five jumps and rest for 10 breaths. Repeat twice.





Instant energizer

PELVIS ROCK works abs, lower back

Stand with feet shoulderwidth apart, knees slightly bent, hands on waist. Inhale and slowly rock pelvis forward and back by tucking tailbone under, then rolling it back so butt sticks out. Next, exhale as you tilt hips side to side (as shown). Keep legs and upper body still throughout. Try to increase the range of motion as you go. Repeat for one minute.



CHI PUSH works abs, shoulders Stand with feet shoulderwidth apart. Pretend you're holding a basketball at chest. Inhale, then exhale and quickly push imaginary ball forward at shoulder height (as shown), as you pull belly button toward spine. Inhale, slowly bringing ball back to chest and relaxing abs. Repeat for one minute.

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CHI UP AND DOWN
works legs, butt, shoulders
Stand with feet shoulderwidth apart, hands in front
of waist, palms up as if
holding a platter. Inhale and
slowly squat as you raise
hands overhead (as shown).
Squat until knees are bent
about 90 degrees, then
flip hands over and press
palms toward floor as you
stand up. Exhale as you
rise. Repeat for one minute.

Instant energizer

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Instant energizer

AX CHOPPER works abs, shoulders

Stand with feet slightly wider than shoulders, knees bent. Clasp hands together, inhale and raise arms overhead. Exhale and bend over, bringing arms between legs as if swinging an ax. Inhale and roll up slowly until arms are overhead. Turn shoulders to right and repeat to outside of right leg (as shown). Roll up and repeat over left leg. Continue for one minute.



Instant energizer

MOVING HORSE STANCE works abs, back, butt

Start on floor with knees under hips, hands under shoulders and back flat. Inhale as you extend right arm forward and left leg back so they're parallel to floor (as shown). Exhale, bringing elbow and knee in to touch below rib cage. Inhale and extend arm and leg again; exhale and return to start to complete one rep. Repeat on other side. Do five reps on each side.



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YOGA BOW works back, legs, shoulders

Lying facedown, bend knees and grasp ankles or top of feet. (If you can't reach them, do move without holding onto feet.) Inhale as you slowly lift shoulders, chest, knees and thighs off floor (as shown); keep head in line with spine. Pull feet away to help lift upper body. Hold for three slow breaths, then lower to floor, still holding feet, and rest for three breaths. Repeat twice.



Instant energizer

PILATES HUNDRED works abs

Lie faceup, palms down next to body. Lift legs, toes pointed, several inches off floor. Tuck chin and lift head, shoulder blades and arms, pulling in abs (as shown). Pump arms up and down, inhaling through nose for five pumps and exhaling through mouth for five pumps. Aim for 100 pumps, bending knees if necessary. Return to start, rest for five breaths and repeat.

