## RUNDERWEAR"

## MARATHON TRAINING PLAN EXPERIENCED

England Athletics Running Coach

## MARATHON

## EXPERIENCED

## THE PLAN

This plan is aimed at experienced marathon runners likely looking for a time
of 3 hours $-3: 30$ or faster and who can train $5-6$ times a week Y Yư"l likely have experience completing inteval tr trining before, and have raced
regularly over tokm-hal marathon, or indeed a full marathon.

## COMPLETING THE PLAN

The majority of the sessions are runs, but you can replace with
cardiovascular cross triaing using a bike, rowing machine, swimming etc. You misht see cross training included in the plan to - these are labelled as
'XT: If you need to swan days, don't run two runs harder than $6 / 10$ effiot on 'XT'. If you need to swap days, don't run two runs harder than $6 / 10$ effort on
back to back days. it's fine to add more running but always remember you Dack to back davs. It's fine to add tore running but always remember you
need to recoover well to progress and you are better to yo a ititle less than
too much. 1 f you are tired, sore, have a cold or are worried about a niggle need tor recover well to progress and you are better to do a lititle less than
too much. If you are tired, sore, have a cold or ore woried abtout an
stop, rest and i in necessany speak to a physio or medical expert. stop, rest and if necessary, speak to a physio or medical expert.
GUIDING YOUR EFFORT
The plan is written to time and perceived effifrt to make it flexible for
runners at dififerent levels, running over difíerent terrain and in dififerent


| RPE SCALE | What it micht feel like.. |
| :---: | :---: |
| 0 | You're still in bed... |
| 1 | Brisk walking for some, very easy jogging for others. Able to fully chat away with no effort. |
| 2.3 | Easy running, able to hold conversation, you might have consciously work to slow down. Gentle, relaxed, feeling like you could run forever. |
| 4.5 | Steady running. Able to speak but in shorter sentences. You might hear yourself breathing but could still keep going for between 75 minutes - 2 hours. |
| 6.7 | Controlled discomfort. A pace you could hold for around 60 mins in a race. You should be able to speak $2-3$ words at a time. Cruising at speed. |
| 8.9 | Working hard at $3 \mathrm{~km}-10 \mathrm{~km}$ effort. You have to focus and work to maintain pace. You'll be breathing strongly and will feel like you need the recovery between efforts. |
| 10 | Working very hard. A effort you can sustain for only short periods before you effort feels unsustainable. |


|  | monday | tuesday | WEDNESDAY | thursday | friday | SATURDAY | SUNDAY |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| WEEK 1 | Run or XT Session: 30-45 mins easy at 2-3/10 effort | Warm up: 10 min easy run at 2.310 effort <br> Main Session: 5 sets of 5 minutes at $6.7 / 70$ effort with 75.90 s jog recovery <br> Cool down: $5-10$ min easy run at $2 \cdot 310$ effort | Run or XT Session: 40-55 mins easy at 2-3/10 effort | Rest | Run Session: $45-60$ min easy run at $2-3 / 10$ effort | Run Session: 45 min run as: 5 mins easy at $2-3 / 10,15 \mathrm{mins}$ steady at $4-5 / 10,15 \mathrm{mins}$ at controlled discomfort 6-7/10 effort | 1:30-1:50 hrs at $3.5 / 10$ effort. |
| WEEK 2 | Run or XT Session: $30-45$ mins easy at 2-3/10 effort | Warm up: 10 min easy run at $2-3 / 10$ effort <br> Main Session: $8-10 \times 2$ mins at $8-9 / 10$ with 90 secs rest <br> Cool down: $5-10$ min easy run at $2-3 / 10$ effort | Run or XT Session: 40-55 mins easy at 2-3/10 effort | Run Session: 45 min run as: 15 mins easy at 2-3/10, 15 mins steady at 4-5/10, 15 mins at controlled discomfort 6-7/10 effort | Rest | Run session: 30-40 min easy at 2-3/10 effort | 1:40-2:00 hrs at 3-5/10 effort building to run final 30 at marathon pace if you feel good |
| WEEK 3 | Run or XT Session: <br> $30-45$ mins easy <br> at 2-3/10 effort | Warm up: 10 min easy run at $2-3 / 10$ effort Main Session: 3 sets of 8 minutes at $7 / 10$ effort with 90 jog recovery <br> Cool down: $5-10$ min easy run at 2-3/10 effort | Run or XT Session: <br> 40-55 mins easy <br> at 2-3/10 effort | Rest | Run Session: 45-60 min easy run <br> at 2-3/10 effort with the final 10-15 at 6-7/10 if you feel good | Run session: 40-50 min easy at 2-3/10 effort | 1:45-2:00 hrs at 3-5/10 effort. |
| WEEK 4 | Run or XT Session: 30 mins easy at 2-3/10 effort | Warm up: 10 min easy run at $2-3 / 10$ effort Main Session: 4 sets of 6 minutes at $6-7 / 10$ effort with $60-75$ s jog recovery <br> Cool down: 5-10 min easy run at 2-3/10 effort | Run or XT Session: 30-45 mins easy at 2-3/10 effort | Run Session: 30 min run as: 10 mins easy at $2-3 / 10,10$ mins steady at $4.5 / 10,10$ mins at controlled discomfort 6-7/10 effort | Rest | Run session: $5 \mathrm{~km}-10 \mathrm{~km}$ race or time trial | 1:15-1:30 hrs at 3-5/10 effort. |
| WEEK 5 | Run or XT Session: <br> 30-45 mins easy <br> at 2-3/10 effort | Warm up: 10 min easy run at $2-3 / 10$ effort Main Session: 5 minutes at $6.7 / 10$ effort, then $5 \times 4$ minutes at 8100 with 120 s rest Cool down: $5-10$ min easy run at $2-3 / 10$ effort | Run or XT Session: 45-60 mins easy at 2-3/10 effort | Run Session: 60 min easy run at 2-3/10 effort. | Rest | Run session: 30-40-50 min easy at $2-3 / 10$ effort | 2:00-2:15 hrs at 2-4/10 but to incluade $3 \times$ mins marathon pace in the final hour with a 5 min easy recovery |
| WEEK 6 | Run or XT Session: <br> 30-45 mins easy <br> at 2-3/10 effort | Warm up: 10 min easy run at $2-3 / 10$ effort Main Session: $8 \times 3$ mins running numbers $1,3,5,7$ at $6-7 / 10$, numbers $2,4,6,8$ at $8-9 / 10$ with 90 secs rest Cool down: $5-10$ min easy run at $2-3 / 10$ effort | Run or XT Session: 45-60 mins easy at 2-3/10 effort | Rest | Warm up: 10 min easy run at 2-3/10 effort Main Session: 3 sets of 8 minutes at 7/10 effort with 90-120s jog recovery Cool down: 5-10 min easy run at 2-3/10 effort | Run Session: 40-50 min easy run at 2-3/10 effort | 2:00hrs $-2: 15$ hrs at $3.5 / 10$ effort. |
| WEEK 7 | Run or XT Session: <br> $30-45$ mins easy <br> at 2-3/10 effort | Warm up: 10 min easy run at $2-3 / 10$ effort Main Session: 6 sets of 5 minutes at $7 / 10$ effort with 75 -90s jog recovery <br> Cool down: 5-10 min easy run at 2-3/10 effort | Run or XT Session: <br> 45-60 mins easy <br> at 2-3/10 effort | Rest | $50-70 \begin{gathered}\text { minutes easy to steady } \\ \text { at } 3-4 / 10 \text { effort }\end{gathered}$ | Run session: 40-50 min easy at 2-3/10 effort | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 2:10- } 2: 25 \mathrm{hrs} \text { at } 3-4 / 10 \text { effort } \\ & \text { but the final } 65 \text { mins run as } 2 \\ & \times 30 \text { mins goal marathon pace } \\ & \text { with } 5 \text { mins easy recovery } \end{aligned}$ |
| WEEK 8 | Run or XT Session: 30-45 mins easy at 2-3/10 effort | Run session: $40-50$ min easy at $2-3 / 10$ effort | 60-75 minutes with 45 minutes run as $15 \times 3$ minutes alternating $7-8 / 10$ with $5-6 / 10$ with no rest | Run or XT Session: 45-60 mins easy at 2-3/10 effort | Rest | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Run Session: } 60 \text { min run as: } 20 \\ & \text { mine easy at } 2-3 / 30,20 \text { mins steady } \\ & \text { at } 4-5 / 10,20 \text { mins at controled } \\ & \text { discomfort } 6-7 / 10 \text { effort. } \end{aligned}$ | 2:20hrs $-2: 35$ hrs at $3.5 / 10$ effort. |
| WEEK 9 | Run or XT Session: 30 mins easy at $2-3 / 10$ effort at 2-3/10 effort | Warm up: 10 min easy run at $2-3 / 10$ effort <br> Main Session: $10 \times 3$ mins running numbers $1,3,5,7,9$ at $6.7 / 10$, numbers $2,4,6,8$, , 10 at $8-9.910$ with 90 secs rest Cool down: $5-10$ min easy run at $2-3 / 10$ effort | Run or XT Session: <br> 30-45 mins easy <br> at 2-3/10 effort | $40-50$ minutes easy to steady at $3-4 / 10$ effort at $3-4 / 10$ effort | Rest | Run session: 30-40 min easy at 2-3/10 effort | Half Marathon race or TT, consider running at goal if fresh |
| WEEK 10 | Run or XT Session: <br> 30-45 mins easy <br> at $2-3 / 10$ effort | Run session: $40-50$ min easy at $2-3 / 10$ effort | 75-90 mins to include $3 \times 15$ minutes starting at marathon pace and getting a little faster jog between sets | Rest | Run or XT Session: $45-60$ mins easy at $2-3 / 10$ effort | Run Session: 45 min run as: <br> 15 mins easy at $2-3 / 10,15 \mathrm{mins}$ steady at 4-5/10, 15 mins at controlled discomfort 6-7/10 effort. | 2:20hrs $-2: 35$ hrs at $3.5 / 10$ effort. |
| WEEK 11 | Run or XT Session: 30-45 mins easy at 2-3/10 effort | Warm up: 10 min easy run at $2-3 / 10$ effort Main Session: 3 sets of 10 minutes at $7 / 10$ effort with $90-120 \mathrm{~s}$ jog recovery <br> Cool down: $5-10$ min easy run at $2-3 / 10$ effort | Run or XT Session: 45-60 mins at 2-3/10 effort | Rest | Warm up: 10-15 min easy run at 2-3/10 effort $10-14 \times 60$ s at $8-9 / 10$ with 60 s easy to steady running between each. Cool down: 10-15 min easy run at 2-3/10 effort | Run session: 40-50 min easy at 2-3/10 effort | 2:45hrs - 3:00hrs at $3-4 / 10$ effort building to run the marathon pace |
| WEEK 12 | Run or XT Session: <br> $30-45$ mins easy <br> at 2-3/10 effort | Run session: 40.60 min steady at $3.5 / 10$ effort | $75-90$ mins to include 20 mins, 15 mins, 10 mins, 5 mins with the 20 min effort at marathon pace and getting faster each following block with 2-3 mins easy between each. | Rest | $45-60$ minutes easy to steady at $3-5 / 10$ effort | Run or $\times T$ Session: $40-50$ mins at $2-3 / 10$ effort | 2:45hrs $-3: 00 \mathrm{hrs}$ at $3.5 / 10$ effort. |
| WEEK 13 | Run or XT Session: <br> 30-45 mins easy <br> at 2-3/10 effort | Warm up: 10 min easy run at $2-3 / 10$ effiort Main Session: 12 minutes, 10 minutes, 8 minutes at $7-810$ effiot with 90 jog recovery Cool down: $5-10$ min easy run at $2-3 / 10$ effort | Run or XT Session: $45-60$ mins at $2-3 / 10$ effort | 60-75 minutes easy to steady at $3-5 / 10$ effort | Rest | Run session: 40.50 min easy at $2-3 / 10$ effiot | Long run, 2 hrs 20-45 mins at $3-4 / 10$ but run the last $45-60$ mins at marathon pace |
| WEEK 14 | Run or XT Session: <br> 30-45 mins easy <br> at 2-3/10 effort | Run or XT Session: 45-60 mins easy at $2 \cdot 3 / 10$ effort | $75-90$ minutes with 45-60 minutes run as $15-20 \times 3$ minutes alternating 7.81010 with $5-6 / 10$ with no rest $\qquad$ | Rest | $45-60 \begin{gathered}\text { minutes easy to steady } \\ \text { at } 3-5 / 10 \text { effort }\end{gathered}$ at 3-5/10 effort | Run session: 40.50 min easy at $2-3 / 10$ effiot | 1:45-2 hours at 3-4/10 if you feel good pick up the pace in the final $30-45$ minutes to goa marathon pace |
| WEEK 15 | Run or XT Session: 30 mins easy at 2-3/10 effort | Warm up: 10 min easy run at $2-3 / 10$ effort $10.12 \times 75$ at $8-9 / 10$ with 60 s rest, jog for 2.3 minutes then run $20-30$ mins at marathon pace Cool down: $5-10$ min easy run at $2-3 / 10$ effort | Run or XT Session: 40 mins easy at 2-3/10 effo | Rest | 60-75 minutes start easy build to run the final 20-30 minutes at marathon pace | Run session: 30-45 min easy at 2-3/10 effort | Run Session: 70 mins at 3.410 effior |
| WEEK 16 | Run or XT Session: 30 mins easy at 2-3/10 effort | Warm up: $5-10$ min easy run at $2-3 / 10$ effort <br> Main Session: 3 sets of 6 minutes at marathon pace with 90 s jogged recovery <br> Cool down: 5-10 min easy run at $2-3 / 10$ effort | Run or XT Session: <br> 20-30 mins easy <br> at 2-3/10 effort | Run Session: 20-30 mins at $2-3 / 10$ | Rest | Run session: 15 mins easy jog <br> at $2-3 / 10$ | MARATHON, HAVE A GREAT RACE! |

