

STRESS

Chronic stress triggers a range of physical and mental health symptoms. Physically, stress weakens the immune system and increases susceptibility to illness. Stress also exacerbates pain and reduces physical stamina.

STRESS IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Employees who showed higher levels of stress display:

- FEWER effective trouble shooting strategies
- LACK of clear instruction
- INEFFECTIVE office management
- REDUCTION in motivation , productivity, and job satisfaction
- INCREASED physical and mental health problems, absenteeism and employee turnover
- BURNOUT!!!

STRESS IN HIGHER EDUCATION

• Examples of stress-reducing strategies with the most scientific support include yoga, exercise and mindfulness meditation. Yoga and exercise require physical exertion and have benefits beyond physical fitness. Both also trigger hormones that relieve stress and are associated with better mental focus and mood. No specific skills are required for mindfulness meditation, and with even a few minutes of practice most days, benefits include improvements to self-awareness, mental concentration and emotion regulation.

STRESS RELIEF TECHNIQUES

- MAD Journaling
- Laughter
- Music
- Cursing

- Guided Meditation
 - Mindfulness
 - Visualization
 - Progressive Muscle Relaxation

MAD JOURNALING

Writing without apology.....

- No grammar
- No fear
- No judgement

Nothing is taboo….

LAUGHTER

- 1. LOWERS BLOOD PRESSURE
- 2. REDUCES STRESS HORMONE LEVELS
- 3. WORKS YOUR ABS
- 4. IMPROVES CARDIAC HEALTH
- 5. TRIGGERS THE RELEASE OF ENDORPHINS
- 6. PRODUCES A GENERAL SENSE OF WELL-BEING

MUSIC

• Music can have a beneficial effect on our physiological functions, slowing the pulse and heart rate, lowering blood pressure, and decreasing the levels of stress hormones. Music, in short, can act as a powerful stress management tool in our lives.

CURSING

• When cursing, our whole body and all emotions are connected — no guidelines, no filter. The release is complete, and thus stress relieving.

• Cursing can be an effective emotional release, especially for anger and frustration

• Improved psychological and physical health — The health benefits of swearing include increased circulation, elevated endorphins, and an overall sense of calm, control, and well-being.

COUNTING STONES

Similar concepts:

- Rosary beads(Catholicism) and Dhikr beads(Islam) sometimes used to help people relax during prayer
- Worry beads

MINDFULNESS VS. VISUALIZATION

- AWARENESS OF SOMETHING
- BEING PRESENT IN THE MOMMENT
- OUTER SELF

- AWARENESS OF NOTHING
- ESCAPE
- INNER SELF

Progressive muscle relaxation (PMR) is a deep relaxation technique that has been effectively used to:

- A decrease in your heart rate
- A lowering of your blood pressure
- A decrease in your rate of breathing
- Your shoulders and chest will have relaxed, and so your breath will be deeper and not so shallow and high up in the chest.
- Better oxygen levels in your bloodstream

- Your brain wave activity will shift from beta waves to an increase in alpha waves, resulting in a more relaxed mental state with less mental chatter
- Less muscle tension throughout your body
- Decreased anxiety and panic
- Lowers insomnia by relaxing restlessness and racing thoughts

COLORS FOR STRESS RELIEF

- Blue
- Olive green
- Tan
- •Soft gray

- Light yellow
- Pink
- Lavender
- White

OTHER WAYS TO DE-STRESS AT WORK

- 1. Take a Walk
- 2. Take a Deep Breaths
- 3. Stretch
- 4. Meditate with an App
- 5. Talk It Out with a Friend

- 6. Get Inspired with a TED Talk
- 7. Drink Tea Instead of Coffee.
- 8. Take a Power Nap
- 9. Take a Reading Break
- 10. Work Outside
- 11. Simple acts of acknowledgment

SCENTS FOR STRESS RELIEF

- •Lemon
- Lavender
- Jasmine
- Rosemary

- Cinnamon
- Peppermint
- Chamomile
- Bergamot

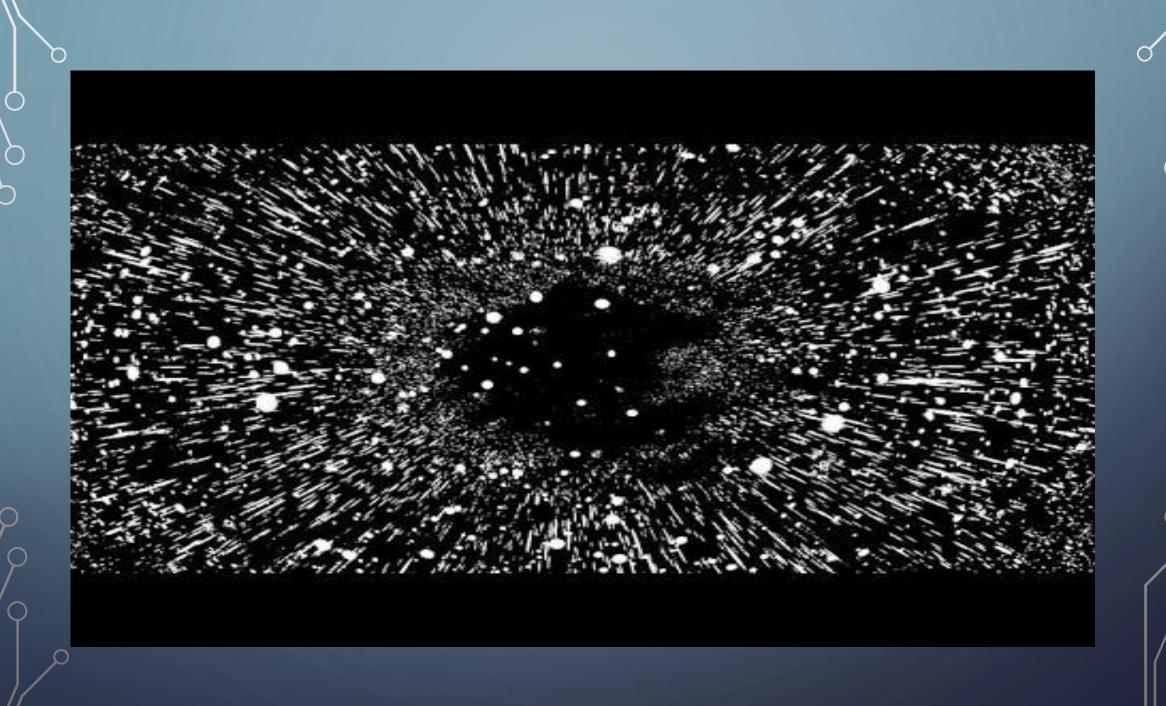
SEATED YOGA POSES TO RELIEVE STRESS

Ujjayi Breathing Kumbhaka Breathing

- Cat Pose
- Cow Pose
- Seated Side Bend
- Seated Side Twist

- Forward Fold
- Pigeon Pose
- Extended Side Angle
- Modified Head of Cow Pose





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VISUAL (PICTURES AND PATTERNS)

