



We Run As One

The Big Half 10-week Training Plan

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
	Get motivated for the week ahead!	TRAINING DAY	Podcast of the week – click to listen!	TRAINING DAY	Fridays are We Run As One Days!	TRAINING DAY	Relax, and plan your fundraising!
WEEK 1	<p>Starting off right</p> <p>Firstly, you can do this! 13.1 miles is a long way, but have faith in yourself and the journey you are about to go on – and this plan!</p> <p>Regular training will develop the stamina and strength you need to run a successful half marathon.</p> <p>LET’S GO!</p>	<p>Session 1</p> <p>10 min walk; 4 min easy run, 1 min walk x 4; 10 min walk (40 min total)</p>	<p>Listen</p> <p>The Start Line Podcast</p> <p>Hosted by Dee, Jules and Petrina: three sisters talking about running, eating, music, life... and everything in between.</p>	<p>Session 2</p> <p>5 min easy run, 5 min walk x 3 (30 min total)</p>	<p>Pride in London</p> <p>Find out more</p> <p>about the team of volunteers working hard to make Pride London (5 July) the UK’s biggest and most diverse Pride. Everything they do is designed to give LGBT+ people a platform to be visible and speak loudly to the rest of the city about what matters to them.</p>	<p>Session 3</p> <p>10 min easy run, 2 min walk x 4 (48 min total)</p>	<p>The good news? There’s no training today! Sit back, relax (if you can!), reflect on your success and look forward to the week ahead. These Sundays are a chance to rest, and plan your fundraising! First up, create your fundraising page with Enthuse, our official fundraising partner.</p>
WEEK 2	<p>Fuelling your body</p> <p>Here are our top three foods to help aid your recovery and rebuild and repair those muscles after every run:</p> <p>1. Watercress</p> <p>Not just garnish – watercress is an established big-hitter for recovery and damage limitation. The peppery leaves contain hefty amounts of iron, vitamin C and calcium and are a great way to liven up a salad. Eat: Whenever you can</p> <p>2. Alcohol-free beer</p> <p>Contains powerful antioxidant phenols: a German study showed runners who were given non-alcoholic beer for three weeks before the Munich Marathon suffered less inflammation afterwards than a placebo group – and probably fewer headaches too! Drink: Erdinger Alkohalfrei</p> <p>3. Apples</p> <p>Among many good things, apples contain quercetin, an anti-inflammatory antioxidant. Eat: Like they say, an apple a day!</p>	<p>Session 1</p> <p>10 min walk; 2 min easy run, 1 min walk x 10; 5 min easy run; 5 min run (50 min total)</p>	<p>Listen</p> <p>The Run Wave</p> <p>A safe place for runners to discuss what’s on their mind, vent about things going on within the running community, and just a place where runners can be themselves and have a great time.</p>	<p>Session 2</p> <p>10 min easy walk; 1 min steady run, 2 min walk x 6; 5 min easy walk (33 min total)</p>	<p>London’s best running routes</p> <p>The Big Half is a celebration of our capital – if you live in the city and want to get to know it better while training, take a look at Lonely Planet’s seven best running routes for inspiration.</p>	<p>Session 3</p> <p>5 min walk; 20 min easy run; 3 min walk; 20 min easy run; 5 min walk (53 min total)</p>	<p>Involve colleagues.</p> <p>Add your fundraising link to your email signature, or put it on the work noticeboard, to spread the word with your colleagues.</p>
WEEK 3	<p>Training in summer</p> <p>While training during the summer months means longer days and (hopefully!) less wind, rain and mud to contend with, it can be tricky if the temperatures start hotting up!</p> <p>Visit our website to read our top tips for running in the heat.</p>	<p>Session 1</p> <p>10 min walk; 4 min easy run, 1 min walk x 4; 10 min walk (40 min total)</p>	<p>Listen</p> <p>Rich Roll podcast</p> <p>Ultra-endurance athlete Rich Roll delves deep into all things wellness, with some of the brightest and most forward-thinking, paradigm-busting minds in health, fitness, nutrition, art, entertainment, entrepreneurship, and spirituality. Rich aims to help you unlock your best self.</p>	<p>Session 2</p> <p>5 min easy run, 5 min walk x 3 (30 min total)</p>	<p>Exodus at London Museum Docklands</p> <p>This mixed-media installation explores migration by reflecting on today’s conversation around the subject and highlighting the history and challenges of major population movements through time.</p>	<p>Session 3</p> <p>10 min easy run, 2 min walk x 4 (48 min total)</p>	<p>Double your money. Check if your employer does ‘matched giving’ – this could double the amount you raise for charity!</p>
WEEK 4	<p>Three tips for a good night’s sleep</p> <p>1. Turn your screens off an hour before bed: the blue light emitted from your devices can interfere with your circadian rhythm.</p> <p>2. Give yourself a three-hour gap between your last meal and your bedtime. A settled stomach can help you relax and get into that sleepy state sooner.</p> <p>3. Avoid caffeine after midday. Caffeine raises your heart rate and can stay in your system for up to seven hours.</p>	<p>Session 1</p> <p>10 min easy run; 4 min steady run, 1 min walk x 6; 10 min easy run (50 min total)</p>	<p>Listen</p> <p>To My Sisters</p> <p>Courtney Daniella Boateng and Renee Kapuku’s mission is to see women win. Focused on fostering positive female relationships, To My Sisters offers women the space for holistic wellness, growth and healing.</p>	<p>Session 2</p> <p>40 min steady run</p>	<p>The Black Unity Bike Ride</p> <p>Shake up your training by getting on a bike next week! The Black Unity Bike Ride (BUBR), on Saturday 2 August, will start at Leyton Sports Ground in east London and follows a 17-mile route through the capital, finishing in Dulwich Park in south London.</p>	<p>Session 3</p> <p>10 min easy run, 1 min walk x 7 (77 min total)</p>	<p>Organise a quiz night. Host a quiz night and charge people an entry fee to add to your fundraising total. You could hold a raffle at the same time too!</p>
WEEK 5	<p>Have fun with Fartlek!</p> <p>At the halfway point in the plan, you may want to bring some variety to your schedule. Fartlek training makes a great alternative to road running.</p> <p>The word ‘Fartlek’ comes from the Swedish meaning ‘speed play’ – find out how to have some Fartlek fun on your runs on our website.</p>	<p>Session 1</p> <p>30 min easy run</p>	<p>Listen</p> <p>The Disabled Debrief</p> <p><i>Conscious Being Magazine</i> is written for and by disabled women and non-binary people – and its podcast covers subjects such as privilege, chronic illness in the workplace, disability in sports and more!</p>	<p>Session 2</p> <p>15 min easy run, 1 min walk x 3 (48 min total)</p>	<p>Disability influencers</p> <p>Around 14 million people in the UK have some sort of disability – read about the disability influencers trying to make a difference and leave their mark on social media.</p>	<p>Session 3</p> <p>90 mins of easy running (walk as and when you need to but try to stay on your feet for 90 min)</p>	<p>Sponsor a mile. Make it easy for people to donate: share your fundraising page and ask them to sponsor you an amount per mile.</p>
WEEK 6	<p>Inspiring community groups</p> <p>Community groups empower runners of all backgrounds and abilities to feel the benefits of exercise and help make running events accessible to all – that’s why we make community places available in The Big Half.</p> <p>Check our website regularly to find out more about some of the amazing community groups taking part in the event this year.</p>	<p>Session 1</p> <p>10 min easy run; 3 min steady run, 1 min walk x 8; 10 min easy run (52 min total)</p>	<p>Listen</p> <p>Women’s Running podcast</p> <p>Each week the <i>Women’s Running</i> magazine team chats to and has a cuppa with an incredible woman from the world of running – their interview with Denise Stephenson, co-founder of Emancipated Run Crew, is inspiring!</p>	<p>Session 2</p> <p>10 min easy run; 2 min fast run, 2 min walk x 5; 10 min easy run (40 min total)</p>	<p>Women’s Running</p> <p>Diversity and inclusion is at the heart of monthly magazine Women’s Running and each cover star is representative of diverse ethnicity, body types and abilities.</p>	<p>Session 3</p> <p>1 mile run with a min walk x 8 (approx 98 min total if you run a mile in 10 minutes)</p>	<p>Share your progress. Post an update and photo from one of your training runs on your fundraising page and share it on social media and via email.</p>
WEEK 7	<p>How to deal with injury</p> <p>1. It’s OK to be upset or angry about not being able to run. Let those initial emotions out, don’t bottle them up or they will build.</p> <p>2. You can’t run right now, but that doesn’t mean you’re not an athlete. Use this time to focus on your diet, improve flexibility and work on a better sleep routine.</p> <p>3. Don’t rush back. You can end up doing yourself more damage. Take your time and trust the process!</p>	<p>Session 1</p> <p>10 min walk; 4 min easy run, 1 min walk x 4; 10 min walk (40 min total)</p>	<p>Listen</p> <p>Power Hour with Adrienne Herbert</p> <p>What could you do if you dedicated just one hour each day to improving yourself and your life? Host Adrienne Herbert explores this idea by speaking to today’s leading coaches, creatives, change-makers and innovators, finding out about their routines, habits, and rules to live by.</p>	<p>Session 2</p> <p>5 min easy run, 5 min walk x 3 (40 min total)</p>	<p>TED Talks</p> <p>Check out @ted for videos from expert speakers on education, business, science, tech, and creativity that are designed to spark conversation, deepen understanding and drive meaningful change.</p>	<p>Session 3</p> <p>10 mile run (walk as and when you need to but aim to cover 10 miles)</p>	<p>Film night How about a change of pace with a relaxed film night at home? Charge your friends a small entrance fee to come along to add to your total.</p>
WEEK 8	<p>Three steps to fundraising</p> <p>1. Set up your fundraising page with our official fundraising partner, Enthuse, now – there’s no time like the present!</p> <p>2. Set your target – make sure you set a fundraising goal for all potential donors to see. It will give you something to aim for too!</p> <p>3. Personalise your page – this is your opportunity to share your story. Let people know why you’re running and give them a reason to donate.</p>	<p>Session 1</p> <p>40 min steady run</p>	<p>Listen</p> <p>Run Things</p> <p>Great inspiration for all runners (and those aspiring to run), Kev and Clare host this mental-health focused podcast all about participation, fun, interaction and support. Everyone is welcome.</p>	<p>Session 2</p> <p>10 min easy run; 3 min fast run, 2 min walk x 5; 10 min easy run (45 min total)</p>	<p>The Felix Project</p> <p>There’s a child hunger crisis in some of the very communities The Big Half passes through. Felix’s Kitchen makes meals from surplus food and delivers them for free in east London, where almost half of children live in poverty. Find out how you can help.</p>	<p>Session 3</p> <p>12 mile run (walk as and when you need to but aim to cover 12 miles to give you the confidence that you can cover the distance on Event Day)</p>	<p>Consider fancy dress. Everyone loves fancy dress! Plan an outfit and then consider auctioning the choice of your event running gear to the highest donor. Make sure you’ve practised running in your outfit before Event Day.</p>
WEEK 9	<p>Understanding tapering</p> <p>It may feel counter-productive, but slowing down, prioritising rest, and reducing your mileage in the last couple of weeks before Event Day is exactly what your body needs to perform at its very best.</p> <p>So trust your training – you won’t gain any extra fitness in these last couple of weeks. Rest up and make sure you’re itching to go next week.</p>	<p>Session 1</p> <p>30 min easy run</p>	<p>Listen</p> <p>Well Far: the Running Podcast</p> <p>Well Far aims to help you to go the distance – check out the Miles and Your Menstrual Cycle episode to discover the link between periods and performance.</p>	<p>Session 2</p> <p>40 min steady run</p>	<p>Dose of Society</p> <p>For a fresh perspective on the news, check out @doseofsociety. They’re a social media team that shines the lights on the stories that matter, but that you may not hear about from other outlets.</p>	<p>Session 3</p> <p>60 min easy paced run</p>	<p>One final push!</p> <p>A huge well done for completing week 9 of your Training Plan. Now it’s time for one final fundraising push as you prepare for Event Day next Sunday.</p>
WEEK 10	<p>Preparing for Event Day</p> <p>You’ve made it to week 10 – congratulations! You’ve done the hard work and now all that’s left is to go out and run 13.1 miles. But before you do that, make sure you’ve read your Event Guide, which we will email to you. It includes everything you need to know to ensure your day runs smoothly.</p>	<p>Session 1</p> <p>30 min easy run</p>	<p>Listen</p> <p>A Runner’s Life – Marcus Brown</p> <p>Be inspired by accomplished marathoner Marcus Brown as he and his guests tackle the topics around training that impact our daily lives.</p>	<p>Session 2</p> <p>20 min easy run</p>	<p>Transforming Lives</p> <p>Members of the Coopah Refugee Run Club have helped to design the finisher T-shirt for The Big Half 2025. The club provides free coaching, kit and entry to running events for refugees and asylum seekers to help them feel included in society and improve their mental health.</p>	<p>Rest day</p> <p>You’re nearly there! You’ve done all the hard work so now you can relax and reflect on how far you’ve come in the last 10 weeks. Tomorrow is a big day – make sure you eat well and get to bed early, so you’re ready to take on 13.1 miles!</p>	<p>THE BIG HALF EVENT DAY!</p> <p>The good news? Today is The Big Half Event Day! The even better news? You’re going to smash it! See you at the Start!</p>



Looking for a personalised Training Plan? Sign up to our Official Training Partner, Coopah, today.



#WERUNASONE