



KEY SESSIONS

LONG RUN Long runs are vital to marathon running and are the key ingredient in your training. Long runs are endurance, rather than speed focused, and help develop stamina, strength and the ability to go the distance. Long runs are done at a controlled, conversational pace.

THRESHOLD RUN Threshold runs are about running under controlled discomfort and are great for improving your running economy. After long runs, threshold runs are probably your most valuable workouts. If you're doing it correctly, then there won't be much conversation happening!

INTERVAL RUN Interval running is structured periods of harder efforts broken up by periods of recovery. They are the most intense run efforts in the training plan and will mean running fast for short periods.

MARATHON PACE (MP) These runs are done at your target marathon completion pace (approx 5:40min/km for a goal time of 4hrs) and are an essential aspect of understanding how best to race your marathon.

WARM-UP (WU) Designed to warm-up the muscles and remain injury free during harder efforts. Similarly, you should always cool down to begin the recovery process.

THINGS TO NOTE

This training plan is not randomly divided over 8 weeks. Each session builds on the previous one so don't be tempted to swap weeks around to suit your schedule. However you can change the days within a week. Just remember to rearrange the rest days to ensure maximum benefit from each session.

Complete the easy sessions easy and the hard sessions hard. Take the rest days seriously.
Stretching and seeking Myotherapy and/or SMR (Self-Myofascial Release) will help improve your running and most importantly keep you injury free.

If possible avoid completing every session on a hard surface. Soft surfaces like grass, dirt and sand put less strain on your body reducing the risk of injury and provide a well-rounded workout. You will be forced to shift and adjust to uneven terrain using muscles you might not on hard and smooth surfaces only.

Fuel with adequate carbohydrates before, during and after each session. Get used to consuming gels in training and don't try anything on race day that you haven't already put into practice!

