# **BEGINNER'S MEDITATION GUIDE**



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#### The Key To Calm, Focus, and Mental Strength (Backed by Neuroscience)

Meditation isn't just "sitting quietly." Neuroscientific research shows that:

- **Brain Rewiring** (Neuroplasticity): Regular meditation strengthens the prefrontal cortex (decision-making, focus) and quiets the amygdala (stress response).
- Emotional Balance: Increases gray matter in brain regions linked to empathy and emotional regulation.
- Stress Relief: Lowers cortisol (stress hormone) and activates the parasympathetic nervous system, promoting relaxation.

#### STEP 1: SETTING THE SCENE

- Find a quiet, comfortable space (bedroom, corner, or even outdoors).
- Sit in a chair or on the floor with your back straight but relaxed.
- Close your eyes or gently soften your gaze.

Visualisation tip: Picture your mind as a snow globe shaken, thoughts swirling. Meditation allows the snow to slowly settle.

#### STEP 2: BREATHING AWARENESS

- Place one hand on your belly.
- Inhale slowly through your nose (feel your belly rise).
- Exhale gently through your mouth (feel your belly fall).

Do this for 10 breaths. Note: Slow breathing stimulates the vagus nerve, calming the nervous system.

### **© STEP 3: FOCUSING THE MIND**

Choose an anchor for your attention:

- Your breath
- A single word (like peace or calm)
- A simple sound (like "mmm")

Each time your mind wanders (it will!), gently bring it back to your anchor.

Visualisation: Imagine each thought as a cloud passing by. You don't chase it; you just notice and let it drift.

### **STEP 4: START SMALL**

- Begin with 5 minutes daily.
- Gradually extend to 10-15 minutes as it feels comfortable.
- Consistency is more important than duration.

Tip: Even 5 minutes a day changes brain wiring if practiced regularly.

### STEP 5: CLOSING YOUR PRACTICE

- Take one deep breath.
- Gently open your eyes.

Smile you've just trained your brain!



### **■ BEGINNER'S DAILY ROUTINE (SAMPLE)**

- **Morning:** 5 minutes breathing meditation.
- **Midday:** 2 minutes mindful pause (focus on breath before sending an email or stepping into a meeting).
- **Evening:** 5 minutes gratitude reflection (focus on one thing you're grateful for).

#### EXTRA NEUROSCIENCE HACKS

- **Visualisation:** Picture your brain "lighting up" with calm energy.
- **Body Scan:** Move attention slowly from head to toe, relaxing each muscle.
- **Habit Linking:** Attach meditation to an existing habit (e.g., after brushing your teeth).

## **\* MY FINAL NOTE TO YOU**

Meditation is the doorway to clarity, focus, and resilience, but the real transformation comes when you align it with your goals and life vision.

If you want help maximising your life or need extra guidance, I'd be more than happy to walk with you on this journey. Together, we'll build not only calmness but unshakable mental strength.

"The mind is like a muscle, the more you train it, the stronger it becomes."

Curate by coach Glody kikonga coach@lokumuinstitute.com