

Canadian Physical Activity Guidelines

FOR CHILDREN - 5 – 11 YEARS

Guidelines



For health benefits, children aged 5-11 years should accumulate at least 60 minutes of moderate- to vigorous-intensity physical activity daily. This should include:



Vigorous-intensity activities at least 3 days per week.



Activities that strengthen muscle and bone at least 3 days per week.



More daily physical activity provides greater health benefits.

Let's Talk Intensity!

Moderate-intensity physical activities will cause children to sweat a little and to breathe harder. Activities like:

- Bike riding
- Playground activities

Vigorous-intensity physical activities will cause children to sweat and be 'out of breath'. Activities like:

- Running
- Swimming

Being active for at least **60 minutes** daily can help children:

- Improve their health
- Do better in school
- Improve their fitness
- Grow stronger
- Have fun playing with friends
- Feel happier
- Maintain a healthy body weight
- Improve their self-confidence
- Learn new skills

Parents and caregivers can help to plan their child's daily activity. Kids can:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Play tag – or freeze-tag! | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Play an active game at recess. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Go to the playground after school. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Go sledding in the park on the weekend. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Walk, bike, rollerblade or skateboard to school. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Go "puddle hopping" on a rainy day. |

60 minutes a day. You can help your child get there!



Canadian Physical Activity Guidelines

FOR YOUTH - 12 – 17 YEARS

Guidelines



For health benefits, youth aged 12-17 years should accumulate at least 60 minutes of moderate- to vigorous-intensity physical activity daily.

This should include:



Vigorous-intensity activities at least 3 days per week.



Activities that strengthen muscle and bone at least 3 days per week.



More daily physical activity provides greater health benefits.

Let's Talk Intensity!

Moderate-intensity physical activities will cause teens to sweat a little and to breathe harder. Activities like:

- Skating
- Bike riding

Vigorous-intensity physical activities will cause teens to sweat and be 'out of breath'. Activities like:

- Running
- Rollerblading

Being active for at least **60 minutes** daily can help teens:

- Improve their health
- Do better in school
- Improve their fitness
- Grow stronger
- Have fun playing with friends
- Feel happier
- Maintain a healthy body weight
- Improve their self-confidence
- Learn new skills

Parents and caregivers can help to plan their teen's daily activity. Teens can:

- ☒ Walk, bike, rollerblade or skateboard to school.
- ☒ Go to a gym on the weekend.
- ☒ Do a fitness class after school.

- ☒ Get the neighbours together for a game of pick-up basketball, or hockey after dinner.
- ☒ Play a sport such as basketball, hockey, soccer, martial arts, swimming, tennis, golf, skiing, snowboarding...

***Now is the time. 60 minutes
a day can make a difference.***



Canadian Physical Activity Guidelines

FOR ADULTS - 18 – 64 YEARS

Guidelines



To achieve health benefits, adults aged 18-64 years should accumulate at least 150 minutes of moderate- to vigorous-intensity aerobic physical activity per week, in bouts of 10 minutes or more.



It is also beneficial to add muscle and bone strengthening activities using major muscle groups, at least 2 days per week.



More physical activity provides greater health benefits.

Let's Talk Intensity!

Moderate-intensity physical activities will cause adults to sweat a little and to breathe harder. Activities like:

- Brisk walking
- Bike riding

Vigorous-intensity physical activities will cause adults to sweat and be 'out of breath'. Activities like:

- Jogging
- Cross-country skiing

Being active for at least **150 minutes per week** can help reduce the risk of:

- Premature death
- Heart disease
- Stroke
- High blood pressure
- Certain types of cancer
- Type 2 diabetes
- Osteoporosis
- Overweight and obesity

And can lead to improved:

- Fitness
- Strength
- Mental health (morale and self-esteem)

Pick a time. Pick a place. Make a plan and move more!

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Join a weekday community running or walking group. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rake the lawn, and then offer to do the same for a neighbour. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Go for a brisk walk around the block after dinner. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Train for and participate in a run or walk for charity! |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Take a dance class after work. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Take up a favourite sport again or try a new sport. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bike or walk to work every day. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Be active with the family on the weekend! |

***Now is the time. Walk, run,
or wheel, and embrace life.***

Canadian Physical Activity Guidelines

FOR OLDER ADULTS - 65 YEARS & OLDER

Guidelines



To achieve health benefits, and improve functional abilities, adults aged 65 years and older should accumulate at least 150 minutes of moderate- to vigorous-intensity aerobic physical activity per week, in bouts of 10 minutes or more.



It is also beneficial to add muscle and bone strengthening activities using major muscle groups, at least 2 days per week.



Those with poor mobility should perform physical activities to enhance balance and prevent falls.



More physical activity provides greater health benefits.

Let's Talk Intensity!

Moderate-intensity physical activities will cause older adults to sweat a little and to breathe harder. Activities like:

- Brisk walking
- Bicycling

Vigorous-intensity physical activities will cause older adults to sweat and be 'out of breath'. Activities like:

- Cross-country skiing
- Swimming

Being active for at least **150 minutes per week** can help reduce the risk of:

- Chronic disease (such as high blood pressure and heart disease) and,
- Premature death

And also help to:

- Maintain functional independence
- Maintain mobility
- Improve fitness
- Improve or maintain body weight
- Maintain bone health and,
- Maintain mental health and feel better

Pick a time. Pick a place. Make a plan and move more!

- ☑ Join a community urban poling or mall walking group.
- ☑ Go for a brisk walk around the block after lunch.
- ☑ Take a dance class in the afternoon.
- ☑ Train for and participate in a run or walk for charity!

- ☑ Take up a favourite sport again.
- ☑ Be active with the family! Plan to have "active reunions".
- ☑ Go for a nature hike on the weekend.
- ☑ Take the dog for a walk after dinner.

Now is the time. Walk, run, or wheel, and embrace life.

