

# **Activities On Prescription**

Reduce the amount of time you spend sitting by maximising the time you spend moving.

Complete an activity a day to discover how small tweaks to daily movement, can make big differences over time.



#### INTRODUCTION

Movement is life. It is part of our day to day, from popping the kettle on to hanging out the washing, we are constantly moving.



The activities in this booklet have been designed with daily movement in mind and how small tweaks - **an activity a day** - can make a big difference by reducing the amount of time we spend sitting and maximising the amount of time we spend moving.

# LEVEL LADDER

Daily movement time will vary from person to person.

Use the Level Ladder below to decide which statement best summarises your current daily movement time. This will be your starting point.

> Enjoys carrying out a range of movements e.g. run, swim, cycle. More than 60 minutes is set aside in the day for movement and is not inclusive of out and about time.

> > Able to walk longer distances. More than 60 minutes spent on movement outside the home as and when.

Walk short distances. Less than 60 minutes is spent on movement outside the home as and when.

> Mobile and able to stand for short spells. Majority of time is spent at home.

> > Limited to/spend the majority of time sitting.

#### MOVEMENT AND MOOD CHECK IN (PRE)

Like any journey, it is important to know where you are starting from otherwise how will you know how far you have come or whether what you are doing is working?

Take a moment to answer the questions below so you can revisit them once you have completed your first round of five activities.

On average, how long do you currently spend moving during the course of a day?

- Between 10 and 20 minutes
- Between 20 and 30 minutes
- More than 30 minutes

Circle the face that best describes how activity and movement make you feel -

What are you hoping to achieve by following the activities?

# LEVEL 1

Limited mobility should not be a barrier to activity. The five activities below are examples of how you can sneak seated movement into your daily routine while having fun and helping others.

• Grab a balloon and have fun with family or friends by seeing who can keepy up the longest. **Balloon Keepy Ups** • Who can do the most keepy ups in one minute? Give chair based movement a go. Tip -Check out www.hartlepoolsport.co.uk Chair for inspiration or use YouTube to search **Aerobics** for 'chair based movement for beginners'. • Get involved with a project like knitting hats for premature babies, making cakes Community Champion for a charity bake sale or by building a bat/bird box for a community garden. • Can you complete 10 reps of bicep curls while holding something like soup tins or the tv remote? Strength • Can you add more movements to get Soup other parts of your upper body moving? • Roll up pairs of socks and throw them into your laundry basket. How many shots can you make in a row? Laundry Basketball • How many shots can you make in three minutes? Tip - Move the basket further away to make it more challenging.

> Coffee Squats

Helpful Hobbies

**Active Ad** 

**Breaks** 

Just

Dance

Front

**Room Time** 

Trials

# LEVEL 2

Wanting to sit less and move more, but unsure of how? Use the five activities below to reduce the amount of time you spend sitting.

- How many squats can you do while waiting for the kettle to boil? Can you beat your score over time?
- Add other movements such as worktop press ups and you can squeeze a full body workout in before your first brew.
- Try a new hobby such as growing your own veg. You could save money or you could donate your veg to a food bank.
  Tip - Visit www.hartlepoolsport.co.uk to find out how to get growing today by bringing the equipment to you.
- How many sit to stands can you do during a set of tv adverts? Tip - Add a cushion to make it easier or sit down more slowly to make it harder.
- Stick on your favourite playlist and aim to move for 10 minutes. Tip - You could choose a Just Dance clip on YouTube to dance along to or ask the grandchildren to teach you a new Tik Tok dance.
- How many laps from your couch to the front room door can you do in three minutes? Can you beat your score over time?
- How many daily front room laps can you do over the course of a week?

# LEVEL 3

Sitting less and moving more around the home? Great! It's time to continue this trend outside. From better breathing to improved mood, there are many benefits to spending time outdoors.

• Set yourself a walking challenge such as how many laps from your front door to the end of the street can you do in 15 **Wonderful** Walking minutes? Part 1 • Once you beat your score, increase the challenge time or mix up your route. • Join an outdoor club or group such as a local history group, a nature Shared photography group or a litter picking Interests group and get involved. Tip - Head over to www.hartlepoolsport.co.uk for a list of clubs and groups near you. • Grab your dog or join a friend on their dog walk and see how many throws of **Furry** Friends the ball/steps you can make. Can you beat your score on the next walk? How many quick jobs can you complete while listening to your favourite song? Quick clean jobs include sweeping the Squeaky floor, polishing furniture, collecting Ćlean laundry or watering the plants. Whether your dropping the kids off at school or popping into the corner shop, leave the car at home and walk. Tip - If Cool Commute walking the whole way seems too much, park further away from your destination or get off the bus a stop earlier.

# LEVEL 4

Sitting less and moving more by reducing the time you spend at home? Fab! The five activities below will help to boost your mood and continue to increase your moving time while outside your home.

• Set yourself a walking challenge such as how many loops of the neighbourhood can you do in 30 minutes? **Wonderful** Walking • Once you beat your score, increase the Part 2 challenge time or mix up your route. Tip - Walking is more fun with a friend. Apps have the potential to enhance time outdoors. Like games? Try a game like Jurassic World Alive, Love nature? Take a Get Appy! photo and Seek can identify what it is. Competitive? Track your daily step count with trackers like Active 10. Whether at work, in the shopping centre, library or dentist, take the stairs! Stair Master • When at home, complete 10 reps of step ups on the first stair before ascending. Want to make the shift from fan to player? Join in with a Walking Sport such Winning as basketball - same game, slower pace. Ways Tip - A list of Walking Sports can be found on the Hartlepool Sport website. • If you have some time to spare, why not use your knowledge and skills to help others? From helping out in a Volunteer **Superstar** community kitchen to listening to children read, there are volunteering opportunities for every interest.

#### LEVEL 5

Looking for ways to keep motivated while out and about? The five activities below will hopefully inspire you to continue to sit less and move more for life.

• Join a walking group that offer a variety of walks varying in length, terrain and **Wonderful** difficulty. Tip - A list of local walking Walking Part 3 groups can be found on the Hartlepool Sport website. Find Geocaches hidden around your town or create your own in this real life \* Geocaching treasure hunt. Tip - To find out more, Gold check out www.geocaching.com or give Digital Geocaching a go by playing a mobile game like Pokémon Go. • Join a local sports club or community. Ever wanted to try a martial art or go on Join the Movement a guided bike ride? Find out what's on over at www.hartlepoolsport.co.uk • Sign up for a virtual challenge. Walk, run, cycle or swim - find a challenge **Medal** that's right for you. You could walk the Mad length of Hadrian's Wall or swim the width of the English Channel. Create a piece of nature art while outdoors. This could be on a beach using seaweed or shells to create an image or **Nature** Art a balancing cairn sculpture. No beach? No problem! Use leaves and sticks found at your local park instead.

#### MOVEMENT AND MOOD CHECK IN (POST)

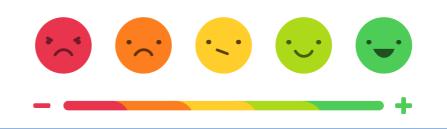
It is important to take time to reflect so you can decide whether or not you are ready to progress on to the next movement level.

If you do not feel ready to move on. it is important to accept and recognise this and spend a little longer extending or repeating some of the activities at your current level until you are ready to make that next step.

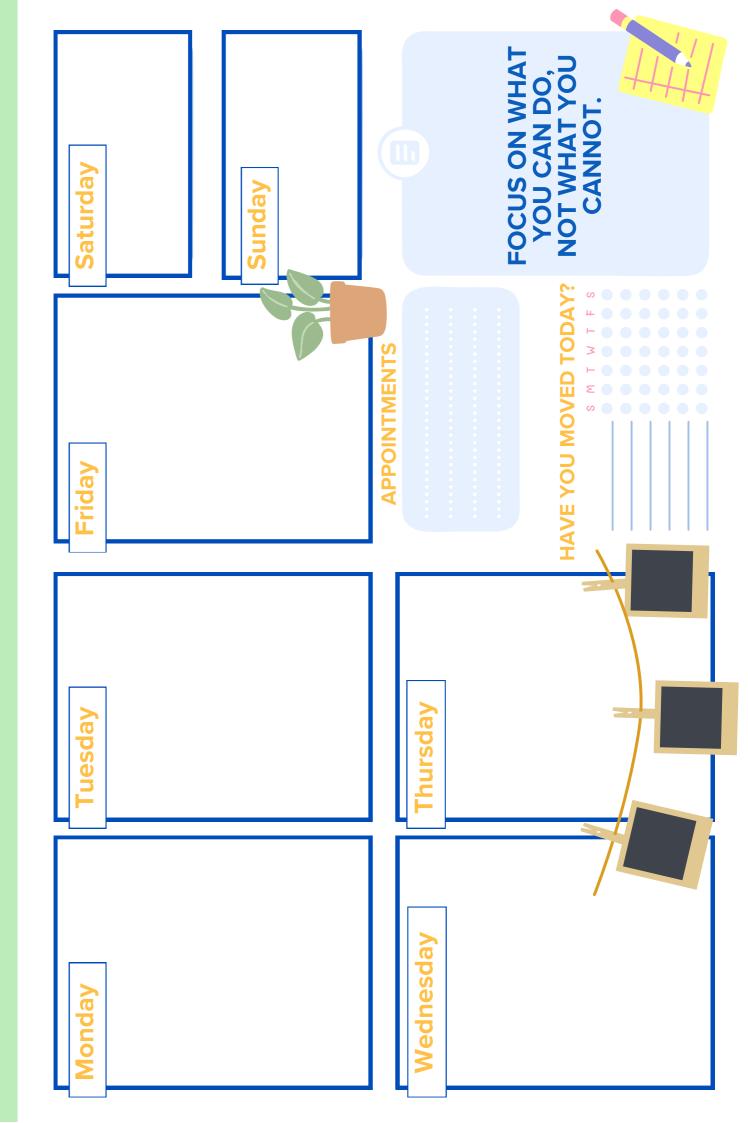
On average, how long do you currently spend moving during the course of a day?

- Between 10 and 20 minutes
- Between 20 and 30 minutes
- More than 30 minutes

Circle the face that best describes your feelings towards the activities and movements you completed -



Did you achieve what you set out to by following the activities? Please give a reason for your response.



**MOVEMENT AND MOOD TRACKER** 

LEVEL-

DATE-

#### **USEFUL RESOURCES**

Sitting less and moving more can be a challenge, especially if you have a long term health condition. From managing breathlessness to keeping active with a lung condition, the resources below will help and support you as you work towards making small changes to reduce your sitting time.



