



16 - WEEK

MARATHON TRAINING PLAN

BREAK 3:15

Want to break 3:15 in the marathon? This plan will help you do it. The program starts with 32 miles a week and a 10-mile long run, and peaks three weeks before the race with 52 miles and a long run that's 22 miles. Most weeks feature one day of rest and six days of running, and include workouts like intervals and tempo runs to help you get fitter and faster. Each key workout includes detailed instructions on pace and distance.

GET ALL THE DETAILS YOU NEED TO TRAIN FOR AND RACE 26.2 WITH OUR [**MASTER THE MARATHON PROGRAM!**](#)

JUMP TO:

[TRAINING PLAN](#) • [WORKOUT KEY](#) • [SPEED WORKOUTS](#)



BREAK 3:15 MARATHON TRAINING PLAN

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|--------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| WEEK 1 | DAY 1 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 2 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 3 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 4 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 5 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 6 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 7 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | 0-3 miles Easy Run | 4-6 miles Easy Run | <u>6-7 miles</u> with Intervals | 0-3 miles Easy Run | 4 miles Easy Run | Rest | 10 miles LSD |
| WEEK 2 | DAY 8 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 9 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 10 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 11 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 12 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 13 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 14 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | 0-3 miles Easy Run | 4-6 miles Easy Run | <u>7 miles</u> with Intervals | 0-3 miles Easy Run | 4 miles Easy Run | Rest | 8 miles LSD |
| WEEK 3 | DAY 15 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 16 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 17 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 18 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 19 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 20 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 21 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | 0-3 miles Easy Run | 4-6 miles Easy Run | <u>8 miles</u> with Intervals | 0-3 miles Easy Run | 4-6 miles Easy Run | Rest | 12 miles LSD |
| WEEK 4 | DAY 22 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 23 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 24 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 25 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 26 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 27 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 28 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | 0-3 miles Easy Run | 4-6 miles Easy Run | <u>7-8 miles</u> with Intervals | 0-3 miles Easy Run | 4-6 miles Hills | Rest | 10 miles LSD |
| WEEK 5 | DAY 29 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 30 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 31 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 32 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 33 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 34 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 35 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | 0-3 miles Easy Run | 4-6 miles Easy Run | <u>8-9 miles</u> with Intervals | 0-3 miles Easy Run | 5-6 miles Hills | Rest | 14 miles LSD |
| WEEK 6 | DAY 36 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 37 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 38 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 39 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 40 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 41 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 42 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | 0-3 miles Easy Run | 4-6 miles Easy Run | <u>8-9 miles</u> with Intervals | 0-3 miles Easy Run | 5-6 miles Hills | Rest | <u>10 miles with</u> <u>2 miles at Tempo</u> |
| WEEK 7 | DAY 43 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 44 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 45 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 46 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 47 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 48 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 49 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | 0-3 miles Easy Run | 4-6 miles Easy Run | <u>9 miles</u> with Intervals | 0-3 miles Easy Run | 5 miles Hills | Rest | 16 miles LSD |
| WEEK 8 | DAY 50 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 51 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 52 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 53 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 54 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 55 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 56 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | 0-3 miles Easy Run | 4-6 miles Easy Run | <u>7 miles</u> with Intervals | 0-3 miles Easy Run | 5-6 miles Easy Run | Rest | <u>10 miles with</u> <u>4 miles at Tempo</u> |



BREAK 3:15 MARATHON TRAINING PLAN

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|---------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| WEEK 9 | DAY 57 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 58 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 59 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 60 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 61 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 62 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 63 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | 0-3 miles Easy Run | 4-6 miles Easy Run | 8-9 miles with Intervals | 0-3 miles Easy Run | 5-6 miles Easy Run | Rest | 18-20 miles LSD |
| WEEK 10 | DAY 64 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 65 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 66 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 67 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 68 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 69 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 70 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | 0-3 miles Easy Run | 4-6 miles Easy Run | 9-10 miles with Intervals | 0-3 miles Easy Run | 5-6 miles Hills | Rest | 12 miles with 6 miles at Tempo |
| WEEK 11 | DAY 71 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 72 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 73 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 74 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 75 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 76 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 77 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | 0-3 miles Easy Run | 4-6 miles Easy Run | 7-8 miles with Intervals | 0-3 miles Easy Run | 5-6 miles Easy Run | Rest | 18-20 miles LSD |
| WEEK 12 | DAY 78 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 79 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 80 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 81 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 82 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 83 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 84 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | 0-3 miles Easy Run | 4-6 miles Easy Run | 10-11 miles with Intervals | 0-3 miles Easy Run | 5-6 miles Hills | Rest | 16 miles with 8 miles at Tempo |
| WEEK 13 | DAY 85 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 86 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 87 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 88 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 89 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 90 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 91 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | 0-3 miles Easy Run | 4-6 miles Easy Run | 10-12 miles with Mile Repeats | 0-3 miles Easy Run | 5-6 miles Easy Run | Rest | 20-22 miles LSD |
| WEEK 14 | DAY 92 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 93 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 94 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 95 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 96 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 97 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 98 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | 0-3 miles Easy Run | 4-6 miles Easy Run | 10-11 miles with Intervals | 0-3 miles Easy Run | 4-5 miles Easy Run | Rest | 16 miles LSD or 5K Race |
| WEEK 15 | DAY 99 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 100 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 101 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 102 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 103 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 104 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 105 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | 3 miles Easy Run | 4 miles Easy Run | 10-11 miles with Intervals | 0-3 miles Easy Run | 4 miles Easy Run | Rest | 8 miles LSD |
| WEEK 16 | DAY 106 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 107 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 108 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 109 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 110 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 111 <input type="checkbox"/> | DAY 112 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | 0-3 miles Easy Run | 4 miles Easy Run | 6-7 miles with Intervals | 3 miles Easy Run | Rest | 3 miles Easy Run | RACE DAY! |

WORKOUT KEY

▶ Rest

Take the day off! You can use this time to relax on the couch, do some meditation, or incorporate light mobility work or an easy yoga class. These days give your body a chance to recover from the hard work you put in, which allows you to progress, and they get you ready for the next run.

▶ Easy Run

These workouts should feel just as they sound: easy. You want to run at an effort that allows you to have a conversation. If you're huffing and puffing, you're going too fast. Try to start them extra slow and light so you can finish strong. These allow you to increase your time on feet and weekly mileage, building endurance while lowering risk of injury. They'll also strengthen your lungs and your legs. You can also sub in cross-training on optional easy run days. For a pace goal, aim for no faster than 8:40/mile.

▶ Miles With Intervals

These are your speed workouts. They're designed to get you faster via interval training. You'll start with easy running to warm up and end with easy running to cool down. Follow the workout prescriptions to gain the most benefits (don't overdo it!), and know some days you won't hit the paces perfectly. Make sure you recover between each interval, jogging or walking.

▶ Hills

Run the day's mileage on the hilliest route you can find. Don't worry too much about the length or grade of the hills. Just get a variety of inclines and descents. Hills help you boost your leg and lung power. Lean slightly forward from the ankles and keep your chest tall on the uphill. On the downhill, think "light, quick steps." Don't let your feet slap the pavement, and don't brake with your legs.

▶ LSD: Long Slow Distance Run

These workouts are all about building endurance and teaching you to run farther so you can finish your race feeling strong. Whenever you're pushing your body farther, it's extra important to start at a pace that feels conservative. That way, you have the energy to finish feeling good. So start slower than you think you need to, and remember you should be able to hold a conversation as you run.

▶ Tempo

You'll see tempo miles mixed into a few of your long runs. You'll run these faster than goal marathon pace, aiming for 6:55/mile, which will make your pace on race day feel easier. These efforts should feel comfortably hard, about a 6 or 7 on a scale of 1 to 10 rate of perceived exertion, with 10 being all-out effort.

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SPEED WORKOUTS

Day 3: 6-7 miles with Intervals

- 2 miles easy warmup
- 6 × 400m @ 1:35 pace (6:22/mile), 200m recovery
- 2 miles easy cooldown

Day 10: 7 miles with Intervals

- 2 miles easy warmup
- 3 × 400m @ 1:35 pace (6:22/mile), 200m recovery
- 2 × 600m @ 2:23 pace (6:23/mile), 400m recovery
- 2 × 400m @ 1:35 pace (6:22/mile), 200m recovery
- 2 miles easy cooldown

Day 17: 8 miles with Intervals

- 2 miles easy warmup
- 3 × 400m @ 1:35 pace (6:22/mile), 200m recovery
- 3 × 800m @ 3:15 pace (6:32/mile), 400m recovery
- 1 × 400m @ 1:35 pace (6:22/mile), 200m recovery
- 2 miles easy cooldown

Day 24: 7-8 miles with Intervals

- 2 miles easy warmup
- 2 × 400m @ 1:35 pace (6:22/mile), 200m recovery
- 1 × 800m @ 3:10 pace (6:22/mile), 400m recovery
- 1 × 1200m @ 4:45 pace (6:22/mile), 400m recovery
- 1 × 800m @ 3:10 pace (6:22/mile), 400m recovery
- 2 × 400m @ 1:35 pace (6:22/mile), 200m recovery
- 1-2 miles easy cooldown

Day 31: 8-9 miles with Intervals

- 2 miles easy warmup
- 1 × 1 mile @ 6:25-6:30 pace, 800m recovery
- 1 × 800m @ 3:10 pace (6:22/mile), 400m recovery
- 1 × 400m @ 1:35 pace (6:22/mile), 200m recovery
- 1 × 1 mile @ 6:25-6:30 pace, 800m recovery
- 1 × 800m @ 3:10 pace (6:22/mile), 400m recovery
- 1 × 400m @ 1:35 pace (6:22/mile), 200m recovery
- 1-2 miles easy cooldown

Day 38: 8-9 miles with Intervals

- 2 miles easy warmup
- 4-6 × 800m @ 3:15 pace (6:32/mile), 400m recovery
- 2 miles easy cooldown

Day 42: 10 miles with 2 miles at Tempo

- 5 miles easy warmup
 - 2 miles @ 6:55 pace
 - 3 miles easy cooldown
-

Day 45: 9 miles with Intervals

- 2 miles easy warmup
 - 1 × 400m @ 1:35 pace (6:22/mile), 200m recovery
 - 1 × 800m @ 3:10 pace (6:22/mile), 400m recovery
 - 1 × 1 mile @ 6:25–6:30 pace, 800m recovery
 - 1 × 800m @ 3:10 pace (6:22/mile), 400m recovery
 - 1 × 1 mile @ 6:25–6:30 pace, 800m recovery
 - 1–2 miles easy cooldown
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Day 52: 7 miles with Intervals

- 2 miles easy warmup
 - 8 × 400m @ 1:35 pace (6:22/mile), 200m recovery
 - 2 miles easy cooldown
-

Day 56: 10 miles with 4 miles at Tempo

- 3 miles easy warmup
 - 4 miles @ 6:55 pace
 - 3 miles easy cooldown
-

Day 59: 8-9 miles with Intervals

- 2 miles easy warmup
 - 1 × 400m @ 1:35 pace (6:22/mile), 200m recovery
 - 1 × 800m @ 3:10 pace (6:22/mile), 400m recovery
 - 1 × 1 mile @ 6:25–6:30 pace, 800m recovery
 - 1 × 800m @ 3:10 pace (6:22/mile), 400m recovery
 - 1 × 1 mile @ 6:25–6:30 pace, 800m recovery
 - 1 × 800m @ 3:10 pace (6:22/mile), 400m recovery
 - 1–2 miles easy cooldown
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Day 66: 9-10 miles with Intervals

- 2 miles easy warmup
 - 6–8 × 800m @ 3:15 pace (6:32/mile), 400m recovery
 - 2 miles easy cooldown
-

Day 70: 12 miles with 6 miles at Tempo

- 3 miles easy warmup
- 6 miles @ 6:55 pace
- 3 miles easy cooldown

Day 73: 7-8 miles with Intervals

- 2 miles easy warmup
- 10 × 400m @ 1:35 pace (6:22/mile), 200m recovery
- 1-2 miles easy cooldown

Day 80: 10-11 miles with Intervals

- 2 miles easy warmup
- 1 × 800m @ 3:10 pace (6:22/mile), 400m recovery
- 1 × 1 mile @ 6:25-6:30 pace, 800m recovery
- 1 × 800m @ 3:10 pace (6:22/mile), 400m recovery
- 1 × 1 mile @ 6:25-6:30 pace, 800m jog recovery
- 1 × 800m @ 3:10 pace (6:22/mile), 400m recovery
- 1 × 1 mile @ 6:25-6:30 pace, 800m jog recovery
- 1-2 miles easy cooldown

Day 84: 16 miles with 8 miles at Tempo

- 4 miles easy warmup
- 8 miles @ 6:55 pace
- 4 miles easy cooldown

Day 87: 10-12 miles with Mile Repeats

- 2 miles easy warmup
- 5-6 × 1 mile @ 6:25-6:30 pace, 800m jog recovery)
- 1-2 miles easy cooldown

Day 94: 10-11 miles with Intervals

- 2 miles easy warmup
- 1 × 1 mile @ 6:25 pace, 800m recovery
- 1 × 1200m @ 4:45 pace (6:22/mile), 400m recovery
- 1 × 800m @ 3:10 pace (6:22/mile), 400m recovery
- 1 × 400m @ 1:35 pace (6:22/mile), 400m recovery
- 1 × 1 mile @ 6:25 pace, 800m recovery
- 1 × 1200m @ 4:45 pace (6:22/mile), 400m recovery
- 1 × 800m @ 3:10 pace (6:22/mile), 400m recovery
- 1 × 400m @ 1:35 pace (6:22/mile), 400m recovery
- 1-2 miles easy cooldown

Day 101: 10-11 miles with Intervals

- 2 miles easy warmup
- 8-10 × 800m @ 3:15 pace (6:32/mile), 400m recovery
- 2 miles easy cooldown

Day 108: 6-7 miles with Intervals

- 2 miles easy warmup
- 6 × 400m @ 1:35 pace (6:22/mile), 200m recovery
- 1-2 miles easy cooldown