

# Mine tips to stick to a schedule of regular exercises

ALWAYS EXERCISE ON MONDAYS

GIVE YOURSELF CREDIT FOR THE SMALLEST **EFFORT** 

If you don't have time both to exercise and take a shower, find exercise where you don't need to shower afterward.

NEVER SKIP EXERCISING FOR TWO DAYS IN A ROW

#### THINK ABOUT CONTEXT

Do you hate the loud music in your gym? Re-think your choices.

Spend money to make exercising more pleasant. Exercise is a high life priority, so this is the place to splurge a bit if that helps.

#### DON'T LINK EXERCISE TO WEIGHT LOSS

Exercise for sanity not vanity.

#### EXERCISE FREQUENTLY

If you think you're staying in shape by playing pick-up basketball, you should be playing four or five times a week.

#### REMEMBER:

belonging to a gym doesn't mean you go to the gym, and just because you were in shape in college doesn't mean you're in shape now.



## Seven tips for being a more light-hearted parent . . .

2

#### SING IN THE MORNING

It's hard both to sing and to maintain a grouchy mood.

5

## SAY "NO" ONLY WHEN IT REALLY MATTERS

Wear a bright red shirt with bright orange shorts? Sure. Put water in the toy tea set? Okay. 1

#### LAUGH!

At least once a day, make each child helpless with laughter.

4

Most messages to kids are negative: "stop," "don't," "no."

Try to say "yes." "Yes, we'll go as soon as you've finished eating."

7

#### **REMEMBER:**

The age of Cheerios and the Tooth Fairy is fleeting.
The days are long, but the years are short.

3

### GET ENOUGH SLEEP YOURSELF

6

#### REPETITION WORKS . . .

with kids, so use the school mantras:

"Sit square in your chair;"

"You get what you get, and you

don't get upset."



## Nine tips for getting your sweetheart to do chores—without nagging . . .

1

## SUGGEST TASKS WITHOUT WORDS

Leave a note, put an empty container on the counter.

4

#### HAVE CLEAR ASSIGNMENTS

I always call repairmen; my husband always empties the Diaper Genie.

7

Settle for a partial victory.

Maybe your partner won't

put dishes in the dishwasher,

but getting them into the

sink is an improvement.

2

#### LIMIT YOURSELF TO ONE WORD

Instead of barking out, "I've told you a dozen times, stop off at the grocery store, we need milk!"

Say, "Milk!"

5

Every once in a while, do your sweetheart's task, for a treat

8

## NO CARPING FROM THE SIDELINES

If your sweetheart made the travel arrangements, don't criticize the flight time.

3

### DON'T INSIST THAT A TASK BE

"You've got to trim those hedges today!" Why? Try, "Will you be able to trim the hedges before our party next week?"

6

#### DO IT YOURSELF

I used to be annoyed with my husband because we never had any cash. Then I realized: why did
I get to assign that job?

Now I do it.

9

#### MONEY MIGHT BUY SOME HAPPINESS

Could you hire a teenager to mow the lawn? Eliminating conflict is a high happiness priority; spend money if it can help.



## Seven tips for coping with the fact that you don't remember a person's name . . .

2

THE "OF COURSE I KNOW
YOU—IN FACT, I WANT ALL YOUR
INFORMATION" DODGE:

"Hey, I'd love to get your card."

5

#### THE "SURE, I REMEMBER YOU" DODGE:

"Remind me—what's your last name?"

If you ask a person for his last

name, he's likely to repeat both

names. "Doe, John Doe."

1

## THE "I KNOW YOUR NAME, BUT I'M BLOCKED" DODGE:

"I keep wanting to call you 'David,' but I know that's not right."

4

#### THE "YOU'RE BRILLIANT!" DODGE:

"Wow, you have a terrific memory. I can't believe you remember my name from that meeting six months ago."

7

Remember that people might not remember your name. Err on the side of re-introducing yourself.

And don't be offended if someone forgets your name!

3

### THE "TIP OF MY TONGUE" DODGE:

"I know I know
your name, but I'm blanking
right now."

6

### THE "ONE-SIDED INTRODUCTION" DODGE:

"Let me introduce you to Pat," you say to Nameless One. You introduce the two and say Pat's name. Usually, Nameless One will volunteer a name.



## Seven tips for getting an energy boost in the next 10 minutes . . .

2

#### GO FOR A BRISK WALK

Even a ten-minute walk is enough to supply a feeling of energy and decreased tension.

5

#### TACKLE AN ITEM ON YOUR TO-DO LIST

Unfinished tasks weigh
us down. Force yourself to
complete some
nagging chore.

1

#### GO OUTSIDE INTO THE SUNLIGHT

Light deprivation is one reason that people feel tired. For an extra boost, get your sunlight first thing in the morning.

4

## LISTEN TO YOUR FAVORITE UPBEAT SONG

Hearing stimulating music gives an instant lift.

7

#### DRINK SOME COFFEE!

Coffee gets a bad rap, but fact is, it boosts alertness, energy, and ability to focus. (Plus it's a great source of antioxidants and dietary fiber.)

3

#### **ACT WITH ENERGY**

Trick yourself into feeling energetic by moving more energetically.

6

#### CLEAN UP!

Why is this so effective?
Unclear—
but it is.



## Seven tips for how money can buy you happiness . . .

2

#### **END MARITAL CONFLICT**

Throw some money at the problem. Can you hire a teenager to clean out the garage?

5

#### SERENITY AND SECURITY

Use money to pay down your debts or to add to your savings. 1

#### STRENGTHEN SOCIAL BONDS

Studies show that having close relationships is one of the most important elements of a happy life.

Visit your brother, throw a

Superbowl party.

4

#### THINK ABOUT FUN

For happiness, you're better off using your money to have a great experience than to gain a possession.

7

#### SPEND MONEY ON SOMEONE ELSE

Spend money in a way that would make a big difference to someone else—whether someone you know, or a cause you support.

3

#### **UPGRADE YOUR EXERCISE**

One of the best ways to boost your mood is to exercise. If buying a new iPod will get you off the couch, that's a good investment.

6

#### PAY MORE FOR HEALTHY FOOD

Healthy food costs more than fast food, but eating healthfully pays off in the long run.



## Mine tips for keeping your resolutions . . .

1

#### WRITE IT DOWN

. . . and be specific.

Not "make more friends" but "start

a movie group," "remember

birthdays," "say hello,"

"make plans."

4

#### THINK BIG!

Maybe you need a big change, a big adventure a trip, a break-up, a new job.

7

### KEEP YOUR RESOLUTION EVERY DAY

Weirdly, it's often easier to do something every day (exercise, post to a blog, deal with the mail) than every few days.

2

### REVIEW YOUR RESOLUTION CONSTANTLY

If your resolution is buzzing through your head, it's easier to stick to it.

5

#### THINK SMALL!

Don't assume that only radical change can make a difference.

Cleaning your fridge can give

you a real boost.

8

#### DON'T LET THE PERFECT BE THE ENEMY OF THE GOOD

Instead of training for the marathon, aim for a daily 20-minute walk.

Instead of cleaning the basement, tackle one closet.

3

#### HOLD YOURSELF ACCOUNTABLE

Tell people about your resolution, join or form a like-minded group, score yourself on a chart.

6

## BREAK YOUR MAIN RESOLUTION

INTO MANAGEABLE TASKS

9

### CONSIDER DROPPING A RESOLUTION—

if you keep breaking it. Don't let an unfulfilled resolution to lose twenty pounds or to give up TV block you.



## Seven tips for making someone like you . . .

2

## BE EASILY IMPRESSED, ENTERTAINED, AND INTERESTED

Most people get more pleasure from wowing you than from being wowed by you.

5

#### LAUGH AT YOURSELF

Showing vulnerability and a sense of humor makes you more likable and approachable.

1

#### SMILE!

The amount of time you smile during a conversation has a direct impact on how friendly you're perceived to be.

4

#### REMEMBER TRAIT TRANSFER

Because of "trait transfer," whatever you say about other people (he's obnoxious, she's brilliant) shapes the way people see you.

7

## SHOW YOUR LIKING FOR ANOTHER PERSON

We're much more apt to like someone if we think that person likes us. 3

#### HAVE A FRIENDLY, OPEN, ENGAGED DEMEANOR

Lean toward people, nod, say
"Uh-huh," turn your body to face
the other person's body.

6

## RADIATE ENERGY AND GOOD HUMOR

Because of the phenomenon of "emotional contagion," people catch the emotions of other people.