

YogaCore® B4G

Presented by: Aimee Marshall

Building Core Strength with YogaFit®

A strong and flexible core helps us maintain alignment and gives us strength from the inside out. A strong core improves the quality of life by enabling our daily activities to be performed with more ease and less fatigue. Our core muscles relate directly to our overall back health. The stronger our internal muscular support system is the more support we are able to lend to our spinal structure as we move. So much of today's population suffers from back pain and/or injuries caused by muscular imbalances when quite a bit of it (not all) can be preventable with the poses and exercises we use in Yoga and YogaCore® when followed by safe alignment principles.

How do we engage the muscles of our core and create core stability? When standing (Mountain Pose) we begin with our feet. In establishing a strong base across all four corners of our feet we gently lift our arches activating the lower muscles of our legs. These muscles connect to our adductor or inner thigh muscles and continue up our body through our pelvic floor muscles to our transverse abdominus (deep abdominal core muscle). By placing a block or a small rubber ball such as the YogaCore® Ball a few inches above our knees we create a deeper awareness of how these muscles connect and work together. We can keep the ball there as we move through various poses such as chair, bridge or ab work to deepen our proprioception or feeling of core integration.

When we practice Yoga we have the opportunity to focus on core strength and stability throughout class. As movements require us to use our own body weight as resistance we learn how to stabilize our spines and engage the deep layers of our abdominals to support our bodies. YogaCore® is a freestyle based program focusing specifically on this engagement with core based poses including: standing poses, back bends and floor work. YogaCore® is a

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great introduction for people who are apprehensive of "yoga" to give it a try, also a great way for our yoga students to enjoy the style of exercise they enjoy most with more intensity and variety. This is an opportunity to bring Yoga to more people so they can acquire the benefits of core training in a safe, non-judgmental and non-competitive environment.

Other benefits of a strong and flexible core include opening the pathways for our nervous system and improved circulation. We reduce the chance for injury by improving balance and coordination. Improved back strength, abdominal strength, spinal flexibility, muscle balance within the body, muscle endurance in the back and abdominals and an improvement to our overall posture.

YogaFit® Core Sample Class

Mountain 1 - Warm-Up

- 1. Mountain Pose
- 2. Moonflower Flow
- 3. Sunflower Flow
- 4. Chair Flow
- 5. Cat/Cow Flow
- 6. Spinal Balance Flow
- 7. Childs Pose to Plank
- 8. Down Dog pedal heels
- 9. Down Dog to Plank
- 10. Sun Salutations

Mountain 2-Work Phase

- 11. Lateral Flexion
- 12. Downward Dog
- 13. Side Plank
- 14. Rest or Flow
- 15. Warrior 1 Warrior 2
- 16. Triangle Pose R & L
- 17. Rest or Flow
- 18. Crescent Lunge
- 19. Twisted Lunge
- 20. Rest or Flow

- 21. Standing Camel
- 22. Standing Balanced Twist

Mountain 3 - Floor Work & Stretching

- 23. Childs Pose
- 24. Locust
- 25. Bow
- 26. Childs Pose
- 27. Boat, alt. Legs & legs up
- 28. Incline Plank
- 29. Boat row & Boat legs up
- 30. Table top
- 31. Knees to chest
- 32. Abdominal Work
- 33. Bridge Flow
- 34. Knees to chest
- 35. Spinal Twists
- 36. Dead Bug
- 37. Relaxation
- 38. Easy pose Namaste

Notes:

YogaFit® Worldwide Training Systems has partnered with Australia Fitness Network, bringing our user friendly and safe yoga teacher trainings to Australia. Please visit: www.fitnessnetwork.com.au/yogafit to find a local training near you!