

Live Well, Work Well

March 2019

Health and Wellness Tips for Your Work and Life
Provided by The Benefits Group



Don't Let Spring Allergies Bring You Down

More than 50 million Americans suffer from allergies every year. In particular, springtime allergies are an annual nuisance for many people. As plants begin to bloom and neighbors start to cut their grass more frequently, allergy sufferers nationwide start sniffing and sneezing. What's more, mold growth blooms both indoors and outdoors, making it almost impossible to escape allergy triggers.

Spring Allergy Alleviation Tips

To reduce your allergies, be sure to take the following steps:

- Wash your bedding every week in hot water to help keep pollen under control.
- Wash your hair before going to bed, since pollen can accumulate in your hair.
- Limit the number of throw rugs in your home to reduce dust and mold.

- Wear an inexpensive painter's mask and gloves when cleaning, vacuuming or painting to limit skin exposure and dust and chemical inhalation.
- Vacuum twice a week.
- Make sure the rugs you have are washable.
- Change air conditioning and heating air filters often.

Treating Allergies

Treatment for most allergies is available both over-the-counter and by prescription. Talk to your doctor to find out what treatment method is right for you. If your allergy symptoms are severe or chronic, you may need a series of allergy shots. Contact your physician or allergist to determine which treatment option is best for you.

Veggie Chow Mein

6 ounces rice noodles
4 tsp. oil
1 onion (medium, finely chopped)
2 garlic cloves (finely chopped)
1 cup carrot (grated)
2 tsp. chicken bouillon
1 tsp. hot pepper sauce
1 cup broccoli (cut into small pieces)
1 cup celery (chopped)
1 cup bell pepper (finely chopped)
4 tsp. soy sauce

Preparations

1. Prepare noodles according to package directions. Drain and set aside.
2. Sauté onion and garlic with oil in a skillet for 1 minute over medium/high heat.
3. Add carrot, chicken bouillon and pepper sauce. Stir.
4. Add broccoli, celery and bell pepper and continue to stir.
5. Reduce heat to low, and add noodles and soy sauce. Mix well over low heat for 3 to 5 minutes.
6. Add salt and pepper to taste.

Makes: 6 servings

Nutritional Information (per serving)

Total Calories	163
Total Fat	4 g
Protein	2 g
Carbohydrates	30 g
Dietary Fiber	3 g
Saturated Fat	1 g
Sodium	399 mg
Total Sugars	3 g

Source: USDA

Your Body May Need a Break, Here's Why

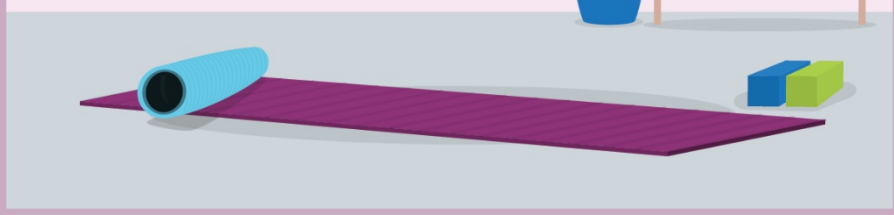
When it comes to exercising, there's a difference between pushing yourself to your limits and overexerting yourself. Oftentimes, this difference is very small, which is why it's so important to know when your body needs a break:

1. **You're always tired.** If you're constantly fatigued, even after getting enough sleep, chances you're working your body too hard.
2. **You're always sore.** A little bit of muscle soreness that occurs 24-48 hours after your workout isn't necessarily a bad thing—it means your workout was effective. However, extensive or prolonged soreness means you're overtraining your body.
3. **You're feeling stiff.** Doing the same exercises, particularly running on hard surfaces, can wreak havoc on your joints. This is especially true if you don't give yourself enough time to recover. That's why having a rest day is so important.

For more information, talk to your doctor.

2 Ways to Make the Most of Your Rest Day

- Use a foam roller to release built-up lactic acid and increase blood flow to your muscles
- Do yoga or stretch to relieve soreness and increase flexibility



Strengthen Your Financial Wellness Plan with These 3 Tips

Getting into the practice of saving will help you become more financially secure. Plan ahead so you have money waiting for you at retirement and can afford unexpected costs along the way. With the right preparation, you won't have to worry when life throws you a curveball.

1. Take advantage of an individual retirement account, 401(k) or other saving mechanisms.
2. Set money aside in accounts you can access prior to retirement.
3. Speak with a financial professional.

Source: IRS