

## 12-WEEK 10 MILE / 1/2M TRAINING PLAN PREPARED BY MIKE CREEK

## **MIKE GRATTON, 1983 LONDON** MARATHON WINNER

## TRAINING NOTES

Il people have different levels of 'trainability' and natural potential. It is possible for complete beginners to make very rapid progress and move up the targets, while others find initially that they can't achieve the early training levels.

There are two golden rules whichever level of improver you find yourself: a) Build-up very gradually, and b) You must rest and recover before training becomes beneficial.

Building-up: Even if you come from a good level of fitness, trying to buildup too quickly will certainly get you injured. Running is a repetitive activity that involves your foot hitting the floor repeatedly with considerable force being transmitted up through the legs and into the lower back. The reason that experienced runners can handle such high levels of training is because they have taken years to get there. Your body adapts slowly to new stresses and a product of regular running is that your bones will harden and become more resilient to the new forces. So fit people beware: your engine (heart & lungs) may find it easy - but after a while your legs won't.

Rest & Recover: The natural thought is that you get better when you train hard. While that is not altogether untrue, the reality is that your body actually gets fitter while you are resting. Here's how it works: during hard exercise your body gets tired, waste products build up and energy levels fall as you have used up fuel - you are technically less able than before you started training! If you continued the same level of activity over several days you would become progressively more tired and eventually you will breakdown - either with injury or illness. However, when you stop and rest your body starts to repair the damage, which it will do to a higher level than before as the body recognises a need to adapt to the new stresses that you're subjecting it to.

Frequency: A regular training pattern is more important than any one session. There is a cumulative effect from training regularly which is not achieved by doing all your training on one or two days each week.

Going the Distance: For 10 mile and

half marathon races it is feasible to train up to and over the race distance.

Your training is done to encourage physiological changes in your body one of these is the ability to use different forms of energy. The most efficient energy source is glycogen - basically a sugar stored in the muscles. This will last for about 1 \_ hrs of fairly rigorous exercise - like running. After that has gone the body learns to use fat for energy - which we all have a big supply of. The problem is that the body does not convert fat to energy very efficiently, although it can be improved by doing runs over 1 \_ hrs. 2-hour runs have been found to be ideal (regardless of the distance covered in that time). It is sufficient time on your feet to help train the energy systems, it encourages local endurance in the leg muscles and joints and it teaches you how to run efficiently. The occasional run over 2 hours is good for confidence - but in general longer will not mean fitter as you will not recover adequately to do your other training.

The amount of rest: Some leading athletes appear not to rest at all - to run at World class you have to achieve high quantities of training. These are the fittest and most economical movers in the World who can run for 30-40 mins without breathing, sweating or touching the ground. They are not like us, we expend enormous amounts of energy with each stride as the shock wave from each step knocks the wind out of your lungs.

Speed and ability are not necessarily good indicators of how efficient a runner you may be slower runner's may simply not have the cardio-vascular system (heart & lungs) to run fast, but can run forever without getting injured. Conversely, plenty of fast runners's regularly get injured because the bodywork is not as strong as the engine. Unfortunately, it is a suck-it-and-see situation, and vou'll find out soon enough, however - it is still essential to build in rest days to allow for the training effect to take place.

Your Health: Everyone should be aware that there is a risk involved with active sport - heart defects leading to death being the most serious. That scare out of the way - for the vast majority of people active sport will improve your health and wellbeing.

Before setting out on an exercise regime you are well advised to visit your doctor for a check-up. A good doctor will be pleased to see you and should give you some advice on setting out - particularly if you have had a health problem like asthma or suffer from carrying excess weight.

The down side of training for a half marathon is that the daunting nature of the event requires you to take on more exercise than is normally advised. While sensible levels of exercise will improve your health, the levels needed to train for a marathon can lead to your immune system being suppressed. You will notice that sleep can become more difficult, your legs don't recover from runs as quickly, your resting pulse rate may be slightly higher than normal (it should get slower as you get fitter) - all of which may result in sore throats, colds that won't go away or flu. If you've gone this far - you must stop and recuperate. When you start up again start at a lower level and feel your way back gradually to where you were - but beware - where you were before is what got you ill in the first place!

Food & Drink: A healthy diet and high fluid intake are essential. Your body burns carbohydrate for the energy you need to make the muscles move, it also needs protein to help it recover from the damage done by hard exercise and it needs vitamins and minerals to maintain its health. So what you need is a good balanced diet. Make sure you are taking in plenty of carbohydrate but make sure you are not surviving just on carbohydrate a plate of just pasta isn't a balanced diet. If you are taking in a lot of fruit and veg, yet still get colds you may need to look at vitamin supplements - but they are not essential if your general health is good.

Liquid is essential. Even on a cold day you will lose a lot of liquid through sweating and breathing - if this does not get replaced your body cannot function properly. So make sure you drink regularly, before, during and after exercise - either water or an isotonic

sport drink, the choice is down to taste although research does show that liquid is absorbed more quickly when taken as an isotonic drink (but don't treat them like soft drinks - during & immediately after exercise only is advisable).

Race Practice: For the beginner, taking part in a couple of big 'pre-Half Marathon' events is an important part of the learning process. It is very different than running on your own: your perception of pace will alter and you will almost certainly run quicker in the first few miles than you thought you were, running uninhibited with several thousand people trying to step on your heels or stopping dead in front of you is frustrating, plus the whole thing about getting there, queuing for the loo (several times) and finding the start. It's best to experience that before the big day. A 5 mile or 10km race will give you some confidence about doing the distance and will teach you something about 'racing' and sustaining your pace.

Tapering Down: Training takes about 2 weeks to become effective - so there is little point in doing too much training in the last two weeks before the event. It is far better to be letting the body recuperate and build up its energy reserves. There is a balance to be found: ease back too much and you will start to lose training effect and start to feel a little bit sluggish. Start to reduce the quantity of training 2 weeks before the half-marathon, but maintain some faster running to keep you feeling 'sharp'. Keep some light training going even in the last week - it's good for confidence - but don't burn up valuable energy with unnecessary 'nervous' training at the last minute.

In the last 4 days concentrate on getting lots of carbohydrate inside you and keep fully hydrated by sipping water regularly. Make your last big meal at least 12 hrs before the race and have a light breakfast 3 hrs before the start on the big day. Drink small amounts right up to start time and take 500ml of water on to the startline and drink it just before the gun is going to go off - it's the most valuable water you'll take on board all day. Then try to get a small amount of liquid at each drink station on the race course.



## 12 WEEK - 10MILE/1/2M TRAINING SCHEDULES IMPORTANT: WARM-UP JOG AND STRETCH BEFORE ALL SESSIONS + STRETCH GENTLY AFTER (BEFORE YOU GET COLD).

WEEK 1	GET YOU ROUND			
SUNDAY	30 mins walk/jog	SUB-2 HR 30 mins Run	SUB-1 HR 40 MINS 60 mins Run	SUB-1 HR 25 MINS 90 mins Run
MONDAY	Rest	Rest	Rest	45 mins Run
TUESDAY	15 min walk/jog	30 min Run	45 min Run	8 x 2 mins at 10mile pace with 2 mins jog recovery between effort
WEDNESDAY	Rest	Rest	30 min run – last 10 mins at half marathon pace	45 min Run
THURSDAY	15 min walk/jog	30 min Run	45 min run	30 min run – last 10 mins at half marathon pace
FRIDAY	Rest	Rest	Rest	Rest
SATURDAY	15 mins walk/jog	Circuits of a park alternating 1 min at faster than normal pace / 1 min at slower than normal pace x 10 each	Circuits of a park alternating 1 min at faster than normal pace / 1 min at slower than normal pace x 10 each	Morning – 30 mins easy/Afternoon - Circuits of a park alternating 1 min at faster than normal pace / 1 min at slower than normal pace x 10 each
TRAINING OBJECTIVE:	Getting over the inhibitions and mental preparation for a regular training pattern. The amount of running is irrelevant – it's more about being 'out there'.	Getting time on the feet and the start of a gradual build up of training.	Getting time on the feet and the start of a gradual build up of training. Beginnings of generating the pace necessary to run at 7 min mile pace.	Runner probably already into full training for road or cross- country season. Introduction of 10 mile/1/2 mar pace training.
WEEK 2	GET YOU ROUND	SUB-2 HR	SUB-1 HR 40 MINS	SUB-1 HR 25 MINS
Sunday	40 mins walk/jog	40 mins steady	60 mins steady	90 mins steady
Monday	Rest	Rest	Rest	45 mins Run
Tuesday	15 min walk/jog	30 min Run	45 min Run	8 x 2 mins at 10km pace with 2 mins jog recovery between efforts
Wednesday	Rest	Rest	30 min run – last 10 mins at half marathon pace	45 min Run
Thursday	15 min walk/jog Rest	30 min Run Rest	45 min run Rest	30 min run – last 10 mins at half marathon pace Rest
Friday Saturday	15 mins walk/jog	Circuits of a park alternating 1 min at faster than normal pace / 1 min at slower than normal pace x 10 each	Circuits of a park alternating 1 min at faster than normal pace / 1 min at slower than normal pace x 10 each	Morning – 30 mins easy/Afternoon - Circuits of a park alternating 1 min at faster than normal pace / 1 min at slower than normal pace x 10 each
Training objective:	As week 1	As week 1	As week 1	As week 1
WEEK 3	GET YOU ROUND	SUB-2 HR	SUB-1 HR 40 MINS	SUB-1 HR 25 MINS
SUNDAY	50 mins walk/jog	60 mins steady	90 mins steady	2 hrs steady
MONDAY	Rest	Rest	30 mins easy	Morning – 30 mins easy/Afternoon - 45 mins easy
TUESDAY	20 mins jog	45 mins easy	45 min continuous run including 10 faster pace efforts of between 1 & 3 mins with jog recovery (run as you please)	6 x 1 mile efforts at half marathon pace.
WEDNESDAY THURSDAY	Rest 20 mins jog	Rest 45 mins easy	Rest 45 mins easy	60 min Run Morning – 30 mins easy/Afternoon – 45 mins easy
FRIDAY	Rest	Rest	30 mins easy	30 mins easy
SATURDAY	Circuit in a park – run 1 min continuous then walk 1 min recovery x 10 each	10 x 1 min running up shallow hill – walk back down recovery	Rest	30 min Jog
TRAINING	Starting to run short distances continuously.	Development of the long run and some hill work to build	Develop long run & faster stretches within the normal steady	Develop long run & faster stretches within the normal steady
OBJECTIVE:		strength in the legs.	pace run.	pace run.
WEEK 4	GET YOU ROUND	SUB-2 HR	SUB-1 HR 40 MINS	SUB-1 HR 25 MINS
SUNDAY	60 mins jog/walk Rest	75 mins steady Rest	2 hr steady run 30 mins easy	2 hr steady run
TUESDAY	25 mins easy	45 min continuous run including 10 faster pace efforts of	45 min continuous run including 10 faster pace efforts of	30 mins easy 6 x 1,000 m at 10km pace – 3 mins recovery between each
TOLODAT	23 111113 6039	between 1 & 3 mins with jog recovery (run as you please)	between 1 & 3 mins with jog recovery (run as you please)	O X 1,000 III at Tokili pace 3 IIIIIS IECOVELY DELWEEN EACH
WEDNESDAY	Rest	Rest	30 mins easy	Morning – easy 30 mins/Afternoon – 60 mins steady
THURSDAY	25 mins easy	45 mins steady	60 mins easy	Morning – easy 30 mins/Afternoon – steady 30 mins followed by 10 x 200m
FRIDAY	Rest	Rest	Rest	Rest
SATURDAY	Circuit in a park – run 1 min continuous then walk 1 min recovery x 10 each	10 x 1 min running up shallow hill – walk back down recovery	12 x 1 min running up shallow hill – walk back down recovery	16 x 1 min running up shallow hill – walk back down recovery
TRAINING OBJECTIVE:	Gradually increasing time of the feet – a mental strategy or run 5 mins/ walk 1 min for the long run will help you get through 60 mins.	Lengthening long run – the pace doesn't matter. Introduction of 'speed work' at race pace will accelerate fitness levels.	Building the speed necessary to run a 10km with some efforts faster than 10km pace so that half marathon pace becomes more comfortable.	Building the speed necessary to run a 10km with some efforts faster than 10km pace so that half marathon pace becomes more comfortable.
WEEK 5	GET YOU ROUND	SUB-2 HR	SUB-1 HR 40 MINS	SUB-1 HR 25 MINS
SUNDAY	75 mins run/walk	75 mins easy	90 mins steady	90 mins steady
MONDAY	Rest	Rest	30 mins easy	Morning – 30 mins easy/Afternoon – 45 mins Run
TUESDAY	35 mins easy	45 min continuous run including 10 faster pace efforts of between 1 & 3 mins with jog recovery (run as you please)	45 min continuous run including 10 faster pace efforts of between 1 & 3 mins with jog recovery (run as you please)	On fairly straight uninterrupted route run 10 mins at 10km pace – 10 mins recovery – run 10 min back trying to get to pass your start point
WEDNESDAY	Rest	Rest	60 mins easy	Morning – 30 mins easy/Afternoon – 60 mins steady
THURSDAY	35 mins easy Rest	60 mins easy  Rest	30 mins steady  Rest	Morning – easy 30 mins/Afternoon – steady 30 mins followed by 10 x 200m Rest
SATURDAY	Circuit in a park – run 1 min continuous then walk 1 min	10 x 1 min running up shallow hill – walk back down recovery	12 x 1 min running up shallow hill – walk back down recovery	16 x 1 min running up shallow hill – walk back down recovery
TRAINING	recovery x 10 each 15 mins added to the long run – using the 5 min run/1 min	Consolidation week - getting used to the balance between the	Consolidation week - getting used to the balance between the	Consolidation week - getting used to the balance between the
OBJECTIVE:	walk strategy.	long run and speed work.	long run and speed work.	long run and speed work.
WEEK 6	GET YOU ROUND	SUB-2 HR	SUB-1 HR 40 MINS	SUB-1 HR 25 MINS
SUNDAY	75 mins run/walk	75 mins easy	10 km race	10 km race
MONDAY TUESDAY	Rest 40 mins easy	Rest Up the clock - run 1 min fast/1 min slow. 2 mins fast/2 mins	30 mins easy  Up the clock - run 1 min fast/1 min slow, 2 mins fast/ 2mins	Morning - 30 mins easy/Afternoon - 45 mins Run Up and down the clock - run 1 min fast/1 min slow, 2 mins
TOESDAT	40 IIIIIS easy	slow, 3 mins fast/3 mins slow/4 mins fast/4 mins slow, 5 mins fast.	slow, 3 mins fast/3 mins slow/4 mins fast/4 mins slow, 5 mins fast.	fast/ 2mins slow, 3 mins fast/3 mins slow,4 mins fast/4 mins slow, 5 mins fast/5 mins slow, the 4, 3, 2, 1 min back down.
WEDNESDAY	Rest	Rest	30 mins easy	Morning - 30 mins easy
THURSDAY	40 mins easy	60 mins easy	75 mins easy	Morning – 30 mins easy/Afternoon - 10 min warm-up – 20 mir Tempo run (10 km race pace) – 10 mins warm-down
FRIDAY	Rest	Rest	30 min easy Rest	30 min easy Rest
SATURDAY TRAINING OBJECTIVE:	10 x 1 min running up shallow hill – walk back down recovery  Consolidation week – slight increase in the mid week runs.	12 x 1 min running up shallow hill – walk back down recovery  Development of ability to run faster than race pace and hold	Development of ability to run faster than race pace and hold	Up and down the clock develops strength and speed. The
OBJECTIVE:		the pace for an increasing amount of time.	the pace for an increasing amount of time. 10 km race adds to the peaking process.	Tempo run enables you to hold a fast pace for a long time. 10 km race adds to the peaking process.
WEEK 7	GET YOU ROUND	SUB-2 HR	SUB-1 HR 40 MINS	SUB-1 HR 25 MINS
SUNDAY	75 mins run/walk	75 min run	2 hrs steady	2 hr steady
MONDAY	Rest	Rest	30 mins easy	Morning – 30 mins easy/Afternoon – 30 mins easy
TUESDAY	45 mins steady	10 mins warm up – 20 mins at half marathon pace – 10 min warm down.	10 mins warm up – 20 mins at half marathon pace – 10 min warm down.	3 sets of 4 x 300m at 3 km pace with 100 m jog recovery between efforts/3 mins standing recovery between sets.
WEDNESDAY	Rest	Rest	60 mins steady	60 mins steady
THURSDAY	60 mins steady	60 mins steady	Morning - 30 mins easy	Morning – 30 mins easy/Afternoon – 30 mins easy
FRIDAY	Rest	Rest	Rest	Rest
SATURDAY	10 x 1 min running up shallow hill – walk back down recovery	12 x 1 min running up shallow hill – walk back down recovery	15 x 1 min running up shallow hill – walk back down recovery	20 x 1 min running up shallow hill – walk back down recovery
TRAINING	The long runs are going to start to get you tired – refuelling after the long Sunday run & mid week hour run is essential	Race pace running is important so that your body gets the 'feel' of the speed you want to race at.	Race pace running is important so that your body gets the 'feel' of the speed you want to race at. Twice a day training on some days gives	Big 'interval sessions' develop the heart & lungs, build strength and develop the speed necessary to run inside race pace

WEEK 8	GET YOU ROUND	SUB-2 HR	SUB-1 HR 40 MINS	SUB-1 HR 25 MINS
SUNDAY	45 mins run/walk	45 mins run	1 hr run	1 hr run
MONDAY	Rest	Rest	30 mins easy	45 mins Run
TUESDAY	45 mins Run	10 mins warm up – 10 x 200m with 200m walk/jog recovery– 10 min warm down.	10 mins warm up – 10 x 200m with 200m walk/jog recovery–10 min warm down.	10 mins warm up – 10 x 200m with 200m walk/jog recovery– 10 min warm down.
WEDNESDAY	Rest	Rest	30 min easy	30 mins easy
THURSDAY	20 mins easy	30 mins steady	30 mins steady	30 mins easy
FRIDAY	20 min easy	30 mins easy	30 mins easy	30 mins easy
SATURDAY	Rest	Rest	Rest	Rest
TRAINING OBJECTIVE:	Recovery week!	Recovery week!	Recovery week!	Recovery week!
WEEK 9	GET YOU ROUND	SUB-2 HR	SUB-1 HR 40 MINS	SUB-1 HR 25 MINS
SUNDAY	90 min steady run	5km/10km Race	5km/10km Race	5km/10km Race
MONDAY	Rest	Rest	30 mins easy	Morning – 30 mins easy/Afternoon – 45 mins Run
TUESDAY	50 mins easy	Up the clock – run 1 min fast/1 min slow, 2 mins fast/ 2mins slow, 3 mins fast/3 mins slow/4 mins fast/4 mins slow, 5 mins fast.	Up the clock – run 1 min fast/1 min slow, 2 mins fast/ 2mins slow, 3 mins fast/3 mins slow,4 mins fast/4 mins slow, 5 mins fast.	16 x 400m at 5km pace – 2 mins recovery between each
WEDNESDAY	Rest	Rest	75 mins easy	90 mins steady
THURSDAY	60 mins easy	60 mins steady	On fairly straight uninterrupted route 10 mins at Half Marathon pace – 5 mins recovery – run 10 min back trying to get to pass your start point	Morning – 30 mins easy/Afternoon - On fairly straight uninterrupted route 10 mins at Half Marathon pace – 5 mins recovery – run 10 min back trying to get to pass your start point
FRIDAY	Rest	Rest	Rest	Rest
SATURDAY	Rest	30 min Tempo Run – half marathon speed	30 min Tempo Run	45 min Tempo Run
TRAINING OBJECTIVE:	An increase in both the long run and total running time in the week. Emphasis is still on building up the distance. Tapering at the end of the week so you are fresh to tackle your first 2 hr run at the start of the next week.	With 3 weeks to go developing speed will help you peak for the big event. The temporun is the most important as it teaches you to concentrate and hold your pace over a long period of time.	With the 5/10 km race, two interval type sessions and the tempor run this is a very intense week that represents a shift from steady miles to faster pace running. The rest days and easy runs are going to be vital.	With the 5/10 km race, two interval type sessions and the tempor run this is a very intense week that represents a shift from steady miles to faster pace running. The rest days and easy runs are going to be vital.
WEEK 10	GET YOU ROUND	SUB-2 HR	SUB-1 HR 40 MINS	SUB-1 HR 25 MINS
SUNDAY		2 hrs steady	2 hrs steady	2 hrs with 30 mins at half marathon Race Pace towards
	<u> </u>	•		the end
MONDAY	Rest 30 min run	Rest 45 min run	30 mins easy 45 min run	Morning - 30 mins easy/Afternoon - 45 mins Run 60 min run
WEDNESDAY	30 min run	45 min run	45 mins run	45 mins run
THURSDAY	Rest	Rest	Rest	30 mins steady
FRIDAY	20 mins easy	30 mins easy	30 mins easy	30 mins easy
SATURDAY	Rest	Rest	Rest	Rest
TRAINING OBJECTIVE:		Consolidation week.	Consolidation week.	Consolidation week.
WEEK 11	GET YOU ROUND	SUB-2 HR	SUB-1 HR 40 MINS	SUB-1 HR 25 MINS
SUNDAY		90 mins	90 mins – quicker pace	90 mins – quicker pace
MONDAY	Rest	Rest	Rest	30 mins easy
TUESDAY	10 min warm up – Alternate 1 min fast/1 min slow x 10	10 min warm up – Alternate 1 min fast/1 min slow x 10	Morning - 30 mins steady/ Afternoon – 12 x 400m at 5km pace / 2 mins recovery between each	Morning – 30 mins easy/Afternoon – 12 x 400m at 5km pace / 2 mins recovery between each
WEDNESDAY		60 mins	Morning – 30 mins easy/ Afternoon – 60 mins easy	Morning - 30 mins easy/ Afternoon - 75 mins Run
THURSDAY	Rest	Rest	Morning – 30 mins easy/ Afternoon - 20 mins easy – 20 mins at half marathon pace	Morning - 30 mins easy/Afternoon - 40 mins Tempo Run at half marathon pace.
FRIDAY	30 mins Run	30 mins Run	Rest	Rest
SATURDAY	Rest	Rest	30 mins steady	30 mins Run
TRAINING OBJECTIVE:	Speed session gets you used to running a little quicker than the predicted half marathon pace.	Speed session gets you used to running a little quicker than the predicted half marathon pace.	Last big week. 5km pace session is the most important.	Last big week. 5km pace session is the most important.
WEEK 12	GET YOU ROUND	SUB-2 HR	SUB-1 HR 40 MINS	SUB-1 HR 25 MINS
Sunday	45 mins easy	1 hr easy	1 hr steady	1 hr steady
Monday	Rest	Rest	30 mins easy	Morning – 30 mins easy/Afternoon –30 mins Run
Tuesday	30 mins easy	10 min warm up – Alternate 1 min fast/1 min slow x 10	10 x 400m at 10 km pace – 2 mins recovery between each	10 x 400m at 5 km pace - 2 mins recovery between each
Wednesday	Rest	30 mins easy	Morning – 30 mins easy/ Afternoon – 40 mins easy	Morning – 30 mins easy/Afternoon – 40 mins easy
Thursday	30 mins steady	30 mins steady	20 mins easy - 20 mins at marathon pace	20 mins easy – 20 mins at marathon pace
Friday	Rest	Rest	30 mins steady	30 mins steady
Saturday	Rest	Rest	Rest	Rest
Training Objectives	Sundays run is a confidence booster. Plan a route with friends who can support you — take water out and generally pander to your needs. Make sure you eat plenty the night before and immediately after the long run.	Sundays run is a confidence booster. Plan a route with friends who can support you – take water out and generally pander to your needs. Make sure you eat plenty the night before and immediately after the long run.	A combination of a very long run and some much quicker interval work. The first will give you confidence – the second bring you to a peak.	A combination of a very long run and some much quicker interval work. The first will give you confidence – the second bring you to a peak.
<b>WEEK 13</b>	RACE DAY	RACE DAY	RACE DAY	RACE DAY