

Golden presents

A Self-Care Worksheet

Building Your Self-Care Toolkit: An Integrative Stress Management Worksheet

Golden's Four Pillars of Wellness model offers a simple, holistic framework to manage stress.

The Four Pillars of Wellness are: *Movement*, *Stillness, Connection*, and *Nourishment*—they are the primary elements of self-care. They are essential to well-being.

The framework below can help you identify the Pillars that need work, so you can manage stress proactively. Simple strategies can go a long way.

Think about the Pillar that needs the most work, and start there. Make changes slowly so they stick. Once you are able to create consistency with one self-care practice, add more.

Movement

Reduce stress, release stored emotions, and enjoy a burst of feel-good neurochemicals.

Movement strategy examples:

- Jog/walk 20 minutes daily
- Dance in the kitchen for 5-10 minutes
- Complete a guided yoga practice
- Something that feels right to you!

Choose one Movement practice to explore and write it down here, including <u>what</u>, <u>when</u>, <u>where</u> and for how long:

Stillness

Recover from daily demands and avoid the cumulative effects of excess stress.

Stillness strategy examples:

- Explore a guided meditation for 5 minutes
- Take a hot bath before bed
- Try "unplugging" for 1 hour before bed
- Something that feels right to you!

Choose one Stillness practice to explore and write it down here, including <u>what</u>, <u>when</u>, <u>where</u> and for how long:

Put this commitment in your calendar.

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Connection

Cultivate authentic relationships and enjoy physical touch.

Connection strategy examples:

- Call or video chat with a friend every day
- Carve out time with your partner for uninterrupted time to connect
- Identify opportunities for service in your community...reach out to help others
- Something that feels right to you!

Choose one Connection practice to explore and write it down here, including <u>what</u>, <u>when</u>, <u>where</u> and <u>for how long</u>:

Put this commitment in your calendar.

Nourishment

Protect the body and brain with wholesome foods and activities that "feed" the spirit.

Nourishment strategy examples:

- Commit to eating a large, colorful salad daily
- Sip warm, nourishing golden milk tea at night
- Savor a novel or music after work
- Something that feels right to you!

Choose one Nourishment practice to explore and write it down here, including <u>what</u>, <u>when</u>, <u>where</u> and <u>for how long</u>:

Put this commitment in your calendar.

Which Pillar (or specific strategy) is your top priority?

Which Pillar (or specific strategy) comes next?