

Half Marathon (21.1KM) Training Plan

Blue Nose Marathon



This Half Marathon Training Plan is aimed at novice or intermediate runners. It includes easy runs, long runs and a run workout. The paces for the runs are based on effort using a scale of 1-10/10. There is guidance included on how to make this training plan more or less advanced.

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Workout Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Weekend	Weekly Total
1		6KM easy pace	6 x [2 min. fast pace intervals w/ 1 min. jog recoveries] – 10KM total	5KM easy pace		10KM easy pace	31KM
2		6KM easy pace	2 x [8 min. threshold pace w/ 2 min. jog recoveries] + 4 hill repeats – 10KM total	5KM easy pace		12KM easy pace	33KM
3		6KM easy pace	2 x [1600m w/ 1 min. jog recovery, 1000m w/ 1 min. jog recovery] at threshold pace - 10KM total	5KM easy pace		14KM easy pace	35KM
4		5KM easy pace	3 x [1000m at 5KM/fast interval pace w/ 4 min. rest – 10KM total	3KM easy pace		8KM easy pace	Down Week: 26KM
5		7KM easy pace	15 min. at threshold pace, 5 min. jog + 4 hill repeats w/ jog or walk down recoveries – 10KM total	5KM easy pace		14KM easy pace	36KM
6		7KM easy pace	3 x [800m at threshold pace w/ 90 sec. jog recoveries] – 10KM total	5KM easy pace		16KM easy pace	38KM
7		7KM easy pace	8 x [2 min. fast interval pace w/ 1 min. jog recoveries] – 10KM total	6KM easy pace		16KM easy pace	39KM
8		4KM easy pace	4 x [1000m at 5KM/fast interval pace w/ 1 min. jog recoveries] – 10KM total	4KM easy pace		10KM easy pace	Down Week: 28KM
9		8KM easy pace	20 min. at threshold pace, 5 min. jog + 4 hill repeats w/ jog or walk down recoveries – 12KM total	6KM easy pace		18KM easy pace	44KM
10		8KM easy pace	10 x [2 min. fast pace intervals w/ 1 min. jog/walk recoveries] – 10KM total	6KM easy pace	5KM easy pace	18KM easy pace	49KM



Week	Monday	Tuesday	Workout Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Weekend	Weekly Total
11		8KM easy pace	8 x hill repeats w/ jog or walk down recoveries – 12KM total	6KM easy pace	5KM easy pace	20KM easy pace	51KM
12		5KM easy pace	4 x [1000m at 5KM/fast interval pace w/ 4 min. rest – 10KM total	5KM easy pace	4KM easy pace	14KM easy pace	Down Week: 38KM
13		8KM easy pace	2 x [12 min. threshold pace, 2 min. easy jog, 3 hills w/ jog/walk down recoveries] - 12KM total	6KM easy pace	5KM easy pace	20KM easy pace	51KM
14		8KM easy pace	Threshold pace intervals: [1600m, 2000m, 2000m, 1600m], all w/ 3 min. jog recoveries – 12KM total	6KM easy pace	5KM easy pace	16KM easy pace	47KM
15		8KM easy pace	6 x [800m threshold pace w/ 90 sec. jog recoveries] – 10KM total	5KM easy pace		12KM easy pace	35KM
16		5KM easy pace	3 x [1000m threshold pace w/ 2 min. jog recoveries] – 10KM total			Blue Nose Half Marathon!	

A few training plan notes:

Days of the week: This plan begins as a 4-days-per-week plan and then grows to a 5-days-per-week plan. It includes easy paced runs, a weekly "workout" and a "longer run." Many training programs are set up this way for a few reasons: it applies a varied training stimulus to your body and it also helps prevent boredom. You can schedule your runs for whatever day of the week works best for you. Flexibility is important. Do try to space the "Workout Wednesday" run and the weekend long run by at least 2 days.

Build and Step-back Weeks: This plan features 3 weeks of build and 1 week called a step-back or down-week where the total mileage is reduced to allow for recovery

Walk breaks: If you are currently using walk breaks, you could aim to extend your period of running by 1 minute per week. For example, if you are running 8 minutes and walking 1 minute on week 1, your goal could be to run 9 minutes and walk 1 minute during week 2 and so on.

Easy Pace: Your easy runs are probably at about 50-60% of your max effort. On an effort scale, that would be 5-6/10 where 10 is the most effort possible. Below 5/10 would be walking. You could comfortably carry on a conversation at this pace. If you find yourself gasping for words, that's a good sign that you can slow down to achieve your easy pace.

Workout Wednesday: This training plan has one day per week with a quality session or a speed workout (these mean the same thing). It's scheduled for Wednesday, but it doesn't need to happen on a Wednesday. It should be spaced from your weekend long run by 2 days. These are fun! Use the instructions to have fun and enjoy seeing what your body can do.

Warm Up and Cool Down: All **Workout Wednesdays** begin with 10 minutes of easy running for a warm-up, noted as "w/u." This is followed by the "workout": the intervals of faster running or hill running intervals. These workouts always end with 10 minutes of cool down running, noted as "c/d." It's ok to do some walking during cool down.

“Threshold Pace” is used for some of your workouts. The effort for threshold pace will be 7 to 8/10 on an effort scale where 10/10 is the most effort possible. Threshold pace is the pace that you could run at for about an hour. If you find yourself running as fast as possible, that’s close to 10/10 effort, back it off to 8/10. There are periods of jogging or walking in between intervals, noted as jog or walk recoveries or rest. It’s ok to walk these rest periods.

“Fast Interval Pace” or 5km race pace: the effort for “fast interval” or 5km race pace will be 9/10 on an effort scale where 10/10 is as hard as possible. Again, if you find yourself running as fast as possible, try to dial it back a notch.

Hills: for the days that workout includes hills, find a hill that will take you about 3 minutes to run up. Walk or jog back down. Repeat. When you are running up the hill, try to keep your eyes up and drive your elbows back to help your body climb the hill.

Can I make this schedule more advanced? Sure, if you want to make the schedule more advanced, add either 2 to 3 kilometers across the board to all the runs. On Workout Wednesday, add the extra kilometers to the warm-up/cool-down and keep the workout portion as planned.

Can I make this schedule less more advanced? Sure thing! It’s important that your training schedule fits your life. When the training schedule grows to 5-days-per-week, omit that 5th run and remain at 4 days/week.

I need a schedule even more advanced than this: Setting a Personal Best is exciting, we hear you! Please email us at admin@bluenosemarathon.com and we would be happy to recommend some coaching options for you.