

TRAINING PLAN: ADVANCED



BROUGHT TO YOU BY MARA YAMAUCHI, THE UK'S SECOND-FASTEST FEMALE MARATHON RUNNER OF ALL TIME AND A TWO-TIME OLYMPIAN.

Training tips to remember

- Consistency in training is key, but be sensible and flexible when approaching training. Sometimes training plans can be adjusted.
- Always perform a good warm-up and warm-down before and after training to maximise performance and help prevent injury.
- Listen to your body and be aware of injuries developing. Training through injury could make it worse. If in doubt, seek professional help.
- The LLHM is a road race but try to do at least some training on soft surfaces eg on grass or trails to help prevent injury.

Explaining the Training Plan

- This plan is designed for experienced runners, so it assumes you are already running regularly including some high intensity running.
- This plan only includes running training. If you can, try to also include 1-2 short (eg 15 mins) sessions of strength & conditioning training per week such as pilates, yoga or body weight exercises at home.
- Tuesdays and Fridays are high intensity days. Sundays are a long run or race to build endurance over the half marathon distance. Mondays and Saturdays are easy days to build aerobic fitness. Wednesday is a slightly longer run to build endurance. Thursday is a rest day. If you feel you need more than one rest day per week, then Monday or Saturday can be used for “active recovery” instead of running – this means some kind of non-running easy physical activity such as swimming, cycling or walking, for a minimum of 30 minutes.
- Intermediate races are included in this plan which could be cross country, 10km, 10 miles or even half-marathon. These are useful measures of your fitness and a good opportunity to try out race strategies.
- The longest run in this plan is 90 minutes. If you intend to take significantly longer than this to complete the half-marathon, then I recommend, once or twice in weeks 8, 9 or 10, extending the long run with walking up to or at least near to your target finish time. eg in week 10, add 20 mins walking before and after 90 mins run for a total of 2 hours and 10 mins on your feet.

WEEK	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
1	30 mins easy run	10 mins easy run, 10 x (1 min hard run, 1 min easy run), 10 mins easy run	50 mins easy run	Rest Day	10 mins easy run, 20 mins steady run, 10 mins easy run	30 mins easy run	60 mins easy run
2	30 mins easy run	10 mins easy run, 5 x (3 mins hard run, 2 mins easy run), 10 mins easy run	50 mins easy run	Rest Day	10 mins easy run, 2 x (6 mins hard run, 2 mins easy run), 10 mins easy run	30 mins easy run	70 mins easy run
3	35 mins easy run	10 mins easy run, 8 x 70 sec hill run, jog back down, 10mins easy run	55 mins easy run	Rest Day	10 mins easy run, 3 x (5 mins hard run, 2 mins easy run), 10 mins easy run	35 mins easy run	80 mins easy run
4	Active recovery	45 mins easy run	45 mins easy run	Rest Day	60 mins easy run	20 mins easy run	Race
5	30 mins easy run	10 mins easy run, 3 x (3, 2, 1 mins hard runs, all 90 secs easy run between). 3 mins easy run between sets. 10 mins easy run	50 mins easy run	Rest Day	10 mins easy run, 30 mins steady run, 10 mins easy run	30 mins easy run	70 mins easy run
6	35 mins easy run	10 mins easy run, 8 x (2 mins hard run, 1 min easy run), 10 mins easy run	55 mins easy run	Rest Day	10 mins easy run, 2 x (8 mins hard run, 2 mins easy run), 10 mins easy run	30 mins easy run	90 mins easy run
7	40 mins easy run	10 mins easy run, 12 x 50 sec hill run, jog back down, 10 mins easy run	60 mins easy run	Rest Day	10 mins easy run, 4 x (5 mins hard run, 90 secs easy run), 10 mins easy run	35 mins easy run	75 mins easy run
8	Active recovery	50 mins easy run	45 mins easy run	Rest Day	70 mins easy run	20 mins easy run	Race
9	30 mins easy run	10 mins easy run, 6 x (3 mins hard run, 90 secs easy run), 10 mins easy run	50 mins easy run	Rest Day	10 mins easy run, 40 mins steady run, 10 mins easy run	25 mins easy run	100 mins easy run
10	30 mins easy run	10 mins easy run, 15 x (1 min hard run, 1 min easy run), 10 mins easy run	40 mins easy run	Rest Day	10 mins easy run, 5 x (4 mins hard run, 90 secs easy run), 10 mins easy run	30 mins easy run	80 mins easy run
11	30 mins easy run	10 mins easy run, 4 x (4 mins hard run, 2 mins easy run), 10 mins easy run	30 mins easy run	Rest Day	10 mins easy run, 2 x (7 mins hard run, 2 mins easy run), 10 mins easy run	30 mins easy run	60 mins easy run
12	30 mins easy run	10 mins easy run, 4 x (2 mins hard run, 1 min easy run), 10 mins easy run	30 mins easy run	Rest Day	30 mins easy run	20 mins easy run	Race Day