

The Sleep Sheet

Below are strategies known to work for most people. These are some of the simplest and most effective things you can do to improve your sleep. But remember, sleep is a very individual thing and what works well for one person might not work so well for another, so think about how you can make these strategies work best for you.

We can all get hung up on 'doing sleep right', but this in itself can get in the way of getting good sleep, so use this list as a guide, rather than a set of rules that you must stick to.

Instructions:

- Go through the list and tick everything you are already doing (there are bound to be some things you are already getting right).
- Pick three things from the 'I could do better at this' list to work on.
- Changing our habits can be hard. Choose 'quick wins' i.e. the three things you can change most quickly and easily in order to start improving your sleep.

If you'd like to understand more about why these strategies work, or how to use them or adapt them for your own needs, head over to the contact page of my website and get in touch.

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Sleep Tip

	I'm great at this already	I could do better at this
Get up at the same time each day, including weekends, even if you've had a disturbed night's sleep.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Get out into the daylight soon after you wake up.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Keep your daytime routine the same, even if you've had a poor night's sleep.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Exercise regularly.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Minimize caffeine, cigarettes and alcohol, especially in the evenings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Avoid exercise within 3 hours of going to bed unless it's gentle e.g. yoga.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Avoid large meals late in the evening, but don't go to bed hungry (have a late snack if you need to)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have a 30 minute wind-down bedtime routine, eg, taking a bath, reading.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Go to bed at around the same time every night.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
If you really need to catch up on sleep, go to bed earlier than normal and get up at the same time as normal.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Keep your bedroom cool, dimly lit or dark, quiet and as comfortable for sleep as possible.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
If you're awake after 20 minutes of trying to sleep, get up and do something relaxing in another room until you feel sleepy.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
If you have things on your mind, write them down. Keep a pen and paper by your bed.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Minimize screen time, or switch your device to night-time settings, for an hour before bed.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Use your bed only for sleep, not for work or catching up on social media.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Turn around any bedroom clocks so it's harder for you to check them.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>