

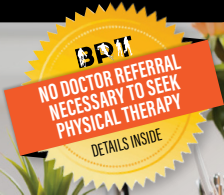
IS YOUR BAD POSTURE CAUSING YOU PROBLEMS?

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LET BRECKENRIDGE PHYSICAL THERAPY GET YOU STANDING TALL AGAIN!

WE ARE OPEN!



IS YOUR BAD POSTURE CAUSING YOU PROBLEMS?

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How do you maintain your posture throughout the day? Do you catch yourself slouching frequently? Do those last couple hours of the school or work day leave you hunched over and ready to leave? If you are experiencing aches and pains, especially in your neck or back, poor posture is probably to blame. Fortunately, posture can be improved with the help of physical therapy. Call us today to learn more about how you can improve your posture and lead a pain-free, active life!

THE 3 CURVES OF YOUR SPINE

Your spine has 3 curves, which provide support and flexibility, in addition to protecting the nerves running up and down your spine. Your neck and lower back should be gently curved in, while your upper back should be slightly curved out.

When you slouch, the spine in your neck and lower back actually becomes straighter, while the upper back becomes excessively curved. This produces a forward-head posture and humped upper back. If your abdominal muscles are weak, you may also experience an excessive arch in your lower back.

COMMON POSTURAL ISSUES

Poor posture isn't anything to be embarrassed about - very few people have perfect posture, and most people partake in bad

posture habits in one way or another. We become so wrapped up in whatever tasks we are doing that we forget to think about the way our bodies are positioned.

Improper posture isn't due to laziness or apathy; rather, it generally has something to do with a physical weakness within our bodies. We slouch and slump when we feel drained because our bodies (quite literally!) get tired of holding us up.

Poor posture leads to excessive strain on your joints, muscles, tendons, and ligaments. It also weakens many of the core muscles that are needed in order to keep you upright and healthy. Posture changes occur over time and most people don't pay attention to them until they begin to notice aches and pains.

Even if you exercise regularly, it is possible that there are still a few weak muscles contributing to your posture that you may not even realize. The muscles in your shoulders, back, abdomen, buttocks, and pelvic floor all play an important role in your posture. If even one of these is weak, your core will be affected, and your posture may suffer.

Your body is designed to align perfectly, in order to allow for proper movement of the muscles, breathing, and blood circulation. If poor posture continues, it can eventually lead to chronic conditions as you age.

(Continued inside)

IS YOUR BAD POSTURE CAUSING YOU PROBLEMS?

[Continued from outside]

COMMON POSTURAL ISSUES

Our physical therapists are experts in evaluating posture and movement. By pinpointing the source of your aches and pains, we can develop a plan for you that will return you to an ideal posture and quickly relieve your pain.

In fact, physical therapy has been proven as one of the most successful methods for improving posture. According to a study published by the National Institutes of Health, titled, "Evidence-based protocol for structural rehabilitation of the spine and posture," the method of structural rehabilitation has a strong efficacy for back pain, neck pain, and postural improvement. Physical therapists have found success in using their methods to treat postural issues, as well as the chronic conditions that may develop as a result.

Physical therapists are movement experts and they are great resources to have when trying to achieve your physical performance goals. They will aid you in the improvement of your balance, stability, flexibility, and mobility, all of which will positively affect your posture.

3 SIMPLE TIPS

Physical therapy treatments will yield the best results when focusing on improving your posture. However, there are some simple tips you can use on your own when standing, sitting, or bending in your daily life:

1. Standing

Stand facing a mirror. Look at your shoulders — does one seem higher than the other? Look at your neck — does it tilt to one side or stick forward?

Pretend that an imaginary string is pulling gently through the top of your head. Notice how your posture improves automatically when you try to be taller? Keep your abdominals slightly contracted to maintain this posture. When walking, make sure that your arms are moving comfortably back and forth, feeling the rotation through your torso.

2. Sitting

Sit all the way back in your chair so you feel your lower back against the back rest. Avoid prolonged sitting on soft couches when watching TV, as this causes excessive slouching. Try to keep your feet flat on the floor and angle your chair so that your knees are slightly lower than your hips.

Try using a small rolled-up towel for your lower back if you need more support while sitting. If you work at a computer, make sure that your keyboard and mouse are slightly lower than the level of your elbow. You may need to adjust your seat higher to make this happen.

3. Bending

Most back injuries occur when bending and twisting at the same time. When you need to bend down to get something from a low surface, make sure you squat, and keep your abdominals tight as you do so. In addition, if you are lifting something, get your body as close as possible to what you are lifting. Try having one leg forward to use your legs more to lift, rather than your back.

CONTACT US FOR ASSISTANCE:

As part of your physical therapy treatment, we can teach you proper posture, bending, and lifting techniques to protect your body from future injuries and make sure you stay healthy for the long-haul.

Contact Breckenridge Physical Therapy today to learn more about how we can help you live pain-free!

breckenridgephysicaltherapy.com

Give This Coupon To A Friend Or Loved One!

No Doctor Referral Necessary To Seek Physical Therapy

Whether you want to come in for a check-up, suffered a recent injury or if you want to improve your health, a doctor's referral is not needed. In the state of Colorado, you have direct access to physical therapy!

Save time



Save money



Improve your health naturally

BRECKENRIDGE  PHYSICAL THERAPY

Refer a Friend!

To _____

From _____

Do you know anyone that needs our help?

- ✓ Move without pain
- ✓ Sit for long periods comfortably
- ✓ Bend and move freely
- ✓ Walk for long distances
- ✓ Balance confidently & securely
- ✓ Live an active & healthy life

Call us at 970.485.3421 or visit breckenridgephysicaltherapy.com



Call Breckenridge Physical Therapy at 970.485.3421, or visit our website at breckenridgephysicaltherapy.com to schedule your appointment today!

DON'T LET YOUR INSURANCE GO TO WASTE!



If you've met your insurance deductible for 2021, your physical therapy costs could be free!

Do you have a family insurance plan? Have you had surgery this year? Have you used your insurance more than usual? If you answered YES, you are more likely to have a \$0 balance remaining on your out-of-pocket expenses. This means the cost could be minimal or completely covered by your insurance plan.

Let us help you get a head start going into 2022, before your deductible renews again!

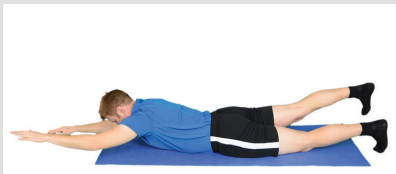
Call Breckenridge Physical Therapy at 970.485.3421, or visit our website at breckenridgephysicaltherapy.com to schedule your appointment today!

Exercise Essentials

Helps strengthen your core!

PRONE ALTERNATE LEG

While lying face down and keeping your lower abdominals tight, slowly raise up a leg. Keep this leg straight, and hold in place for at least 2-3 seconds. Slowly lower and then repeat with the opposite side. Do not allow your spine to move the entire time. Slowly perform at least 10-15 repetitions.



Always consult your physical therapist or physician before starting exercises you are unsure of doing.

SimpleSet Pro
www.simpleset.com

Sudoku

Level Hard

		8			4		
1	6						7
	7		2				1
8	3			7			
5			6	1	4		3
			5				6
	8			2			9
6							2
		9			6		

1sudoku.com

HEALTHY RECIPE

Sweet Potato Pecan Casserole



INGREDIENTS

- 1/2 pounds sweet potatoes, peeled and cut into 1-inch chunks
- 1/3 cup honey
- 1 large egg
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 1/8 teaspoon ground ginger
- Kosher salt
- 1 tablespoon packed dark brown sugar
- 1/3 cup finely chopped pecans

DIRECTIONS

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F. Mist an 8-inch square baking dish with cooking spray. Bring a few inches of water to a boil in a pot with a large steamer basket in place. Put the sweet potatoes in the basket, cover and steam until tender, 20 to 25 minutes. Transfer the potatoes to a bowl and let cool slightly. Add the honey, egg, 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon, the nutmeg, ginger and 1/2 teaspoon salt; whip with an electric mixer until smooth. Spread the sweet potato mixture in the prepared baking dish. Mix the brown sugar, pecans and the remaining 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon in a bowl; sprinkle over the potatoes. Bake until hot and beginning to brown around the edges, 40 to 45 minutes.

HAS YOUR PAIN RETURNED OR A NEW ONE STARTED?

COME BACK TO PT!

Contact Breckenridge Physical Therapy today and start living pain-free again!

970.485.3421