

# **SIMPLE** **PRODUCTIVITY**

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Checklist



## **Create the right mindset**

- Neural pathways
- Mindfulness
- Complete mental exercises
- Remember that your mind is your best tool

## **Mediation**

- Many benefits
  - reduce stress
  - lower blood pressure
  - returns the body to homeostasis
  - lower cortisol levels
- Tips for mediating
  - take long and slow breaths
  - combine it with yoga
  - do positive movements

## **Change your mindset**

- optimize your workspace
- keep a checklist
- identify mood shifts
- eat healthier at work
- gather self-awareness

## **Create a system that works for you**

- create your own routine
- trial and error approach
- tweak routine as you go
- research organizational techniques
- identify your strengths and weaknesses
- reflect on your feelings
- identify behaviors that are stress triggers
- manage your time better
- change behavior to fit the new routine

## **Productivity tools**

- Why do you need tools
  - outside sources help you get more organized
  - many digital tools have reminder functions
  - calendars help you track tasks
  - planners are portable
  - reflect on your tasks for the day
  
- Digital tools
  - computers
  - phones
  - tablets
  - smartwatches
  
- Tips for using a computer
  - use the calendar
  - turn on notifications for appointments
  - set reminders
  - use online notes or notepads

- Tips for using a computer
  - use the notes app
  - set reminders with music or alarms
  - use timed messages function
  - set alarms for appointments
  - sync the calendar with the computer
  - sync your calendar with other people's calendar
  
- Tips for using a tablet
  - download productivity apps
  - set reminders
  - set alarms
  - use the notes function
  
- Tips for using a smartwatch
  - sync computer calendar to the watch
  - special appointment reminders
  - checklist for daily tasks
  
- Tips for making a calendar
  - sync it to all devices
  - turn on automatic reminders
  - add a day to day tasks
  - add do lists
  - create organizational routines
  - medication reminders
  - reminders to eat or drink water
  
- Non-digital tools
  - planners
  - written calendars
  - highlighters
  - colorful pens
  - notepads

## Starting the night before

- Planning the night before
  - meal prep
  - set coffee pot to start
  - prep water bottles
  - pick out clothes
  - layout planner and supplies
  - check goals for the next day
  
- Nighttime routine
  - helps you get ready for bed
  - allows your brain to know it's time to sleep
  - improves sleep
  - reduces stress
  - helps you unwind from work
  
- Tips for nighttime routine
  - drink tea
  - mediation
  - yoga class
  - read a book
  - take a bath or shower
  - clean workspace
  - prep for the next day
  - eat a healthy dinner
  
- Importance of good sleep
  - achieves better mental clarity
  - helps you get focused
  - brain sorts memories
  - prunes neural pathways
  - connects solutions to problems
  - brain waves slow
  - brain activity decreases

- Sleep resets the body
  - better digestion
  - improved circulation
  - improved respiration
  - regulates your metabolism
  - breathing is deep and full
  - muscles relax
  - regulates hormones
  - cortisol drops
  - melatonin increases
  - helps your immune system

### **Creating productive mornings**

- Morning routines
  - just as important as night routines
  - switches your brain from one activity to another
  - helps your body get ready for the day
  - helps you feel in more control
- Tips for morning routines
  - add movement
  - do mediation or yoga
  - wake up 30 minutes earlier
  - stretch
  - do a skincare routine
  - eat breakfast
  - say affirmations in the mirror
- Morning routine at work
  - check calendar
  - create a to-do list for the day
  - sort tasks and projects
  - update planner

## **Eating the frog**

- How to eat the frog
  - start work immediately
  - don't procrastinate
  - organize projects by difficulty
  - do the hardest tasks in the morning
  
- Morning tasks
  - hard tasks in the morning help you to focus
  - finish one hard goal before lunch
  - set up the goal the night before
  - morning hours are more productive
  - focus on one task at a time
  - gets unpleasant tasks out of the way

## **Taking breaks**

- Importance of breaks
  - short breaks help you focus better
  - attention span is less fragile
  - time your tasks
  - take breaks accordingly
  - take breaks every time you finish a task
  - use the buddy method
  - eat during breaks to refuel

## Focus and thrive

### □ Focus

- utilize your systems
- adjust plans to focus better
- don't be too hard on yourself
- take the unexpected changes

### □ Thrive

- don't fear new tasks
- give room for the journey
- practice self-awareness
- quit when something is hurting you
- prepare for success

### □ Tips

- take deep breaths
- take each day as it comes
- be aware of your feelings
- follow your routines