18 WEEK HALF MARATHON TRAINING SCHEDULE

18 WEEK HALF MARATHON TRAINING SCHEDULE IS A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DESIGNED TO GUIDE RUNNERS OF ALL LEVELS THROUGH A GRADUAL AND STRUCTURED BUILDUP TO RACE DAY. THIS EXTENDED TRAINING PERIOD ALLOWS FOR PROGRESSIVE IMPROVEMENTS IN ENDURANCE, SPEED, AND OVERALL FITNESS, MINIMIZING THE RISK OF INJURY. WHETHER PREPARING FOR A FIRST HALF MARATHON OR AIMING TO IMPROVE A PERSONAL RECORD, AN 18 WEEK SCHEDULE PROVIDES AMPLE TIME FOR BASEBUILDING, SPEED WORKOUTS, AND TAPERING. THIS ARTICLE WILL DETAIL THE KEY COMPONENTS OF AN EFFECTIVE 18 WEEK HALF MARATHON TRAINING SCHEDULE, INCLUDING WEEKLY MILEAGE PROGRESSION, TYPES OF RUNS, CROSS-TRAINING, AND RECOVERY STRATEGIES. ADDITIONALLY, PRACTICAL TIPS FOR NUTRITION, GEAR, AND MENTAL PREPARATION WILL BE COVERED TO ENSURE HOLISTIC READINESS. THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS BREAK DOWN THE TRAINING PHASES, WEEKLY STRUCTURE, AND ESSENTIAL ADVICE FOR MAXIMIZING THE BENEFITS OF AN 18 WEEK PLAN.

- Understanding the 18 Week Half Marathon Training Schedule
- WEEKLY MILEAGE AND TRAINING PHASES
- Types of Runs and Workouts
- CROSS-TRAINING AND RECOVERY
- NUTRITION AND HYDRATION STRATEGIES
- GEAR AND EQUIPMENT RECOMMENDATIONS
- MENTAL PREPARATION AND RACE DAY TIPS

UNDERSTANDING THE 18 WEEK HALF MARATHON TRAINING SCHEDULE

AN 18 WEEK HALF MARATHON TRAINING SCHEDULE IS A THOUGHTFULLY DESIGNED BLUEPRINT THAT HELPS RUNNERS BUILD ENDURANCE PROGRESSIVELY WHILE INCORPORATING SPEED AND STRENGTH WORKOUTS. THIS EXTENDED TIMEFRAME IS PARTICULARLY BENEFICIAL FOR BEGINNERS OR THOSE RETURNING FROM INJURY, AS IT PROMOTES GRADUAL ADAPTATION WITHOUT EXCESSIVE STRAIN. THE SCHEDULE TYPICALLY DIVIDES THE PROGRAM INTO DISTINCT PHASES, EACH WITH SPECIFIC GOALS AND FOCUSES. THESE PHASES INCLUDE BASE BUILDING, INTENSITY DEVELOPMENT, PEAK TRAINING, AND TAPERING. UNDERSTANDING THE STRUCTURE AND PURPOSE OF EACH PHASE ENABLES RUNNERS TO FOLLOW THE PLAN EFFECTIVELY AND ACHIEVE OPTIMAL PERFORMANCE ON RACE DAY.

BENEFITS OF AN 18 WEEK TRAINING PLAN

OPTING FOR AN 18 WEEK TRAINING PERIOD OFFERS MULTIPLE ADVANTAGES. IT ALLOWS FOR CONSISTENT MILEAGE INCREASES THAT REDUCE INJURY RISK, ACCOMMODATES REST AND RECOVERY DAYS, AND PROVIDES FLEXIBILITY TO ADJUST WORKOUTS BASED ON INDIVIDUAL PROGRESS. THE EXTENDED SCHEDULE ALSO SUPPORTS THE INTEGRATION OF CROSS-TRAINING ACTIVITIES, WHICH ENHANCE OVERALL FITNESS AND PREVENT BURNOUT. WITH AMPLE TIME TO DEVELOP AEROBIC CAPACITY AND MUSCULAR ENDURANCE, RUNNERS CAN APPROACH THE HALF MARATHON DISTANCE WITH CONFIDENCE AND RESILIENCE.

WEEKLY MILEAGE AND TRAINING PHASES

THE WEEKLY MILEAGE PROGRESSION IS A CRITICAL COMPONENT OF THE 18 WEEK HALF MARATHON TRAINING SCHEDULE. MILEAGE TYPICALLY STARTS AT A MANAGEABLE LEVEL AND INCREASES GRADUALLY EACH WEEK, CULMINATING IN PEAK WEEKS THAT APPROACH RACE DISTANCE OR SLIGHTLY BEYOND. THE PLAN IS ORGANIZED INTO PHASES THAT BALANCE MILEAGE, INTENSITY, AND RECOVERY TO OPTIMIZE ADAPTATION AND PERFORMANCE.

PHASE 1: BASE BUILDING (WEEKS 1-6)

This initial phase focuses on establishing a solid aerobic foundation. Weekly mileage starts low to moderate, around 15-20 miles, and increases by 10% per week. Emphasis is on easy-paced runs to build endurance and develop good running form. Cross-training and strength exercises are introduced to support overall fitness.

PHASE 2: INTENSITY DEVELOPMENT (WEEKS 7-12)

During this phase, weekly mileage increases to 25-30 miles, with incorporation of speed workouts such as intervals, tempo runs, and hill repeats. These sessions improve lactate threshold and running economy. Long runs gradually extend up to 10-12 miles, simulating race conditions.

PHASE 3: PEAK TRAINING (WEEKS 13-16)

THE PEAK PHASE INVOLVES THE HIGHEST WEEKLY MILEAGE, OFTEN REACHING 30-35 MILES, WITH CHALLENGING WORKOUTS TO MAXIMIZE ENDURANCE AND SPEED. LONG RUNS REACH 12-14 MILES TO BUILD CONFIDENCE. RECOVERY AND EASY RUNS REMAIN IMPORTANT TO PREVENT OVERTRAINING.

PHASE 4: TAPERING (WEEKS 17-18)

The final two weeks reduce mileage significantly to allow the body to recover and consolidate fitness gains. Intensity is lowered, and focus shifts to maintaining sharpness and mental readiness for race day. Proper tapering helps optimize performance and reduce fatigue.

Types of Runs and Workouts

AN EFFECTIVE 18 WEEK HALF MARATHON TRAINING SCHEDULE INCORPORATES A VARIETY OF RUN TYPES TO DEVELOP DIFFERENT PHYSIOLOGICAL SYSTEMS. EACH WORKOUT SERVES A SPECIFIC PURPOSE IN ENHANCING ENDURANCE, SPEED, STRENGTH, OR RECOVERY.

EASY RUNS

Easy runs are performed at a comfortable pace that allows for conversation. They promote aerobic conditioning and aid recovery without excessive stress. These runs make up the bulk of the weekly mileage and help build a strong endurance base.

Long Runs

LONG RUNS ARE THE CORNERSTONE OF HALF MARATHON TRAINING, PROGRESSIVELY INCREASING IN DISTANCE TO IMPROVE STAMINA AND MENTAL TOUGHNESS. TYPICALLY PERFORMED ONCE A WEEK, THEY SIMULATE RACE CONDITIONS AND HELP THE BODY ADAPT TO PROLONGED EFFORT.

TEMPO RUNS

Tempo runs involve sustained efforts at a comfortably hard pace, usually close to lactate threshold. These workouts improve the ability to maintain faster paces for longer durations and enhance overall speed endurance.

INTERVAL TRAINING

Interval workouts include repeated bouts of high-intensity running with rest periods in between. They boost aerobic capacity, speed, and VO2 max. Common interval distances range from 400 meters to 1 mile repeats.

HILL WORKOUTS

HILL REPEATS STRENGTHEN LEG MUSCLES, IMPROVE RUNNING ECONOMY, AND INCREASE POWER. INCORPORATING HILLS INTO TRAINING PREPARES RUNNERS FOR VARIED RACE COURSES AND ENHANCES OVERALL PERFORMANCE.

CROSS-TRAINING AND RECOVERY

CROSS-TRAINING AND RECOVERY ARE ESSENTIAL COMPONENTS OF AN 18 WEEK HALF MARATHON TRAINING SCHEDULE. THESE ELEMENTS HELP MAINTAIN OVERALL FITNESS, PREVENT INJURY, AND PROMOTE ADAPTATION TO TRAINING STRESS.

CROSS-TRAINING ACTIVITIES

Non-running exercises such as cycling, swimming, elliptical training, and yoga complement running by improving cardiovascular fitness and muscular balance without additional impact stress. Cross-training days provide active recovery and reduce the risk of overuse injuries.

REST AND RECOVERY DAYS

REST DAYS ARE VITAL FOR ALLOWING MUSCLES TO REPAIR AND REBUILD. ADEQUATE SLEEP, HYDRATION, AND NUTRITION SUPPORT RECOVERY PROCESSES. INCORPORATING REGULAR REST DAYS PREVENTS BURNOUT AND HELPS MAINTAIN CONSISTENT TRAINING QUALITY THROUGHOUT THE 18 WEEKS.

STRETCHING AND MOBILITY

DYNAMIC STRETCHING BEFORE RUNS AND STATIC STRETCHING AFTER WORKOUTS ENHANCE FLEXIBILITY AND REDUCE MUSCLE TIGHTNESS. MOBILITY EXERCISES PROMOTE JOINT HEALTH AND IMPROVE RUNNING FORM, CONTRIBUTING TO INJURY PREVENTION.

NUTRITION AND HYDRATION STRATEGIES

Proper nutrition and hydration are crucial for supporting the demands of an 18 week half marathon training schedule. Fueling the body appropriately enhances performance and recovery.

MACRONUTRIENT BALANCE

A BALANCED DIET RICH IN CARBOHYDRATES, MODERATE IN PROTEIN, AND LOW IN UNHEALTHY FATS PROVIDES THE NECESSARY ENERGY FOR TRAINING. CARBOHYDRATES REPLENISH GLYCOGEN STORES, WHILE PROTEIN AIDS MUSCLE REPAIR. HEALTHY FATS SUPPORT OVERALL HEALTH AND INFLAMMATION CONTROL.

PRE-RUN AND POST-RUN NUTRITION

CONSUMING EASILY DIGESTIBLE CARBOHYDRATES BEFORE RUNS ENSURES ADEQUATE ENERGY AVAILABILITY. POST-RUN MEALS

HYDRATION GUIDELINES

STAYING WELL-HYDRATED BEFORE, DURING, AND AFTER RUNS PREVENTS DEHYDRATION AND MAINTAINS OPTIMAL PHYSIOLOGICAL FUNCTION. ELECTROLYTE REPLACEMENT MAY BE NECESSARY DURING LONG OR INTENSE WORKOUTS, ESPECIALLY IN HOT CONDITIONS.

GEAR AND EQUIPMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

Choosing appropriate gear is an important consideration within an 18 week half marathon training schedule. Proper equipment enhances comfort, performance, and injury prevention.

RUNNING SHOES

SELECTING RUNNING SHOES THAT SUIT INDIVIDUAL FOOT SHAPE, GAIT, AND TRAINING VOLUME IS ESSENTIAL. SHOES SHOULD PROVIDE ADEQUATE SUPPORT, CUSHIONING, AND DURABILITY. IT IS ADVISABLE TO REPLACE SHOES EVERY 300-500 MILES.

APPAREL

TECHNICAL RUNNING CLOTHING MADE FROM MOISTURE-WICKING FABRICS HELPS REGULATE BODY TEMPERATURE AND REDUCES CHAFING. WEATHER-APPROPRIATE LAYERS ENSURE COMFORT IN VARYING CONDITIONS THROUGHOUT THE TRAINING PERIOD.

ACCESSORIES

ADDITIONAL GEAR SUCH AS GPS WATCHES, HYDRATION BELTS, AND FOAM ROLLERS CAN ENHANCE TRAINING QUALITY AND RECOVERY. THESE TOOLS ASSIST WITH TRACKING PROGRESS AND MANAGING MUSCLE HEALTH.

MENTAL PREPARATION AND RACE DAY TIPS

MENTAL READINESS IS A KEY FACTOR IN SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETING AN 18 WEEK HALF MARATHON TRAINING SCHEDULE AND PERFORMING WELL ON RACE DAY. DEVELOPING MENTAL STRATEGIES CAN IMPROVE FOCUS, MOTIVATION, AND RESILIENCE.

GOAL SETTING

SETTING REALISTIC AND MEASURABLE GOALS HELPS MAINTAIN MOTIVATION THROUGHOUT THE TRAINING PERIOD. GOALS CAN INCLUDE FINISHING THE RACE, ACHIEVING A TARGET TIME, OR IMPROVING SPECIFIC FITNESS METRICS.

VISUALIZATION AND POSITIVE SELF-TALK

VISUALIZATION TECHNIQUES INVOLVE MENTALLY REHEARSING SUCCESSFUL TRAINING SESSIONS AND THE RACE ITSELF. POSITIVE SELF-TALK COUNTERS NEGATIVE THOUGHTS AND BUILDS CONFIDENCE.

RACE DAY PREPARATION

PLANNING LOGISTICS SUCH AS TRAVEL, GEAR LAYOUT, AND NUTRITION REDUCES PRE-RACE STRESS. FAMILIARITY WITH THE RACE COURSE AND PACING STRATEGY SUPPORTS OPTIMAL PERFORMANCE. ENSURING ADEQUATE REST AND A BALANCED MEAL THE DAY BEFORE PREPARES THE BODY FOR THE EVENT.

- FOLLOW THE STRUCTURED WEEKLY MILEAGE TO BUILD ENDURANCE SAFELY
- INCORPORATE DIVERSE WORKOUTS INCLUDING TEMPO, INTERVALS, AND HILLS
- ALLOW TIME FOR CROSS-TRAINING AND PROPER REST
- MAINTAIN BALANCED NUTRITION AND HYDRATION THROUGHOUT TRAINING
- Use appropriate gear to enhance comfort and prevent injury
- DEVELOP MENTAL STRATEGIES TO STAY MOTIVATED AND FOCUSED

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT IS THE TYPICAL WEEKLY STRUCTURE OF AN 18 WEEK HALF MARATHON TRAINING SCHEDULE?

A TYPICAL 18 WEEK HALF MARATHON TRAINING SCHEDULE INCLUDES A MIX OF EASY RUNS, LONG RUNS, SPEED WORKOUTS, REST DAYS, AND CROSS-TRAINING SPREAD THROUGHOUT THE WEEK TO BUILD ENDURANCE AND SPEED GRADUALLY.

HOW MANY MILES SHOULD I RUN EACH WEEK DURING AN 18 WEEK HALF MARATHON TRAINING PLAN?

Weekly mileage usually starts around 10-15 miles and gradually increases to a peak of 25-35 miles per week, depending on your experience and goals.

WHEN SHOULD I START TAPERING IN AN 18 WEEK HALF MARATHON TRAINING SCHEDULE?

Tapering typically begins 1 to 2 weeks before race day to allow your body to recover and be fresh for the half marathon.

WHAT TYPES OF WORKOUTS ARE INCLUDED IN AN 18 WEEK HALF MARATHON TRAINING SCHEDULE?

Workouts include easy runs, long runs, tempo runs, interval training, hill repeats, cross-training, and rest days to improve endurance, speed, and strength.

CAN BEGINNERS FOLLOW AN 18 WEEK HALF MARATHON TRAINING SCHEDULE?

YES, 18 WEEKS IS AN IDEAL TIMEFRAME FOR BEGINNERS TO GRADUALLY BUILD UP FITNESS AND AVOID INJURY WHILE PREPARING FOR A HALF MARATHON.

HOW IMPORTANT IS CROSS-TRAINING IN AN 18 WEEK HALF MARATHON TRAINING PLAN?

CROSS-TRAINING IS IMPORTANT AS IT HELPS IMPROVE OVERALL FITNESS, REDUCE INJURY RISK, AND PROVIDE ACTIVE RECOVERY WITHOUT THE IMPACT OF RUNNING.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

1. 18 Weeks to Half Marathon Success: A Comprehensive Training Plan

This book offers a detailed 18-week training schedule tailored for runners aiming to complete their first or improve their half marathon times. It combines running workouts, cross-training, and rest days to build endurance and speed gradually. The author includes motivational tips and nutrition advice to support your journey from start to finish.

- 2. THE 18-WEEK HALF MARATHON BLUEPRINT: FROM BEGINNER TO FINISHER
- DESIGNED FOR BEGINNERS, THIS GUIDE BREAKS DOWN AN 18-WEEK PLAN INTO MANAGEABLE WEEKLY GOALS. IT EMPHASIZES INJURY PREVENTION AND PROPER PACING TO HELP RUNNERS BUILD CONFIDENCE AND STAMINA. ALONGSIDE TRAINING SCHEDULES, THE BOOK PROVIDES INSIGHTS INTO MENTAL PREPARATION AND RACE-DAY STRATEGIES.
- 3. Half Marathon Training Made Simple: An 18-Week Step-by-Step Guide
 This resource simplifies half marathon training with clear instructions and progressive workouts spread over
 18 weeks. It includes tips on form, breathing techniques, and recovery practices. The book also features sample meal plans and advice for balancing training with daily life.
- 4. Run Stronger in 18 Weeks: The Ultimate Half Marathon Training Plan
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 This interactive book combines an 18-week training schedule with journaling prompts to help runners monitor their progress and stay motivated. It encourages reflection on physical and mental changes throughout the training period. The journal also provides space for goal setting and celebrating milestones.
- 6. 18 Weeks to Your Best Half Marathon: A Holistic Training Approach
 This guide integrates physical training with nutrition, hydration, and mental wellness strategies over an 18week period. It emphasizes a balanced approach to training that reduces burnout and enhances overall health.
 Readers will find meal suggestions, mindfulness exercises, and tips for maintaining motivation.
- 7. HALF MARATHON IN 18 WEEKS: TRAINING PLANS FOR ALL LEVELS

 OFFERING CUSTOMIZED 18-WEEK PLANS FOR BEGINNERS, INTERMEDIATE, AND ADVANCED RUNNERS, THIS BOOK CATERS TO A WIDE AUDIENCE. IT INCLUDES INTERVAL TRAINING, TEMPO RUNS, LONG RUNS, AND REST DAYS TAILORED TO EACH LEVEL. THE AUTHOR ALSO ADDRESSES COMMON CHALLENGES AND PROVIDES SOLUTIONS TO KEEP RUNNERS ON TRACK.
- 8. From Couch to Half Marathon: An 18-Week Training Guide
 Perfect for those New to running, this book outlines a gentle progression from inactivity to completing a half marathon in 18 weeks. It stresses gradual build-up and listening to your body to avoid injury. Alongside training tips, it offers advice on gear selection and building a supportive running community.
- 9. THE SCIENCE OF HALF MARATHON TRAINING: AN 18-WEEK EVIDENCE-BASED PLAN
 THIS BOOK DELVES INTO THE SCIENTIFIC PRINCIPLES BEHIND EFFECTIVE HALF MARATHON TRAINING, PRESENTING AN 18-WEEK PLAN
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18 week half marathon training schedule: Hal Higdon's Half Marathon Training Higdon, Hal, 2016-03-01 Hal Higdon's Half Marathon Training offers prescriptive programming for all levels of runners. Not only will it help you learn how to get started with your training, but it will show you where to focus your attention, when to progress, and how to keep it simple.

18 week half marathon training schedule: The Official Rock 'n' Roll Guide to Marathon & Half-Marathon Training Mario Fraioli, 2013-04-01 Rock your run with The Official Rock 'n' Roll Guide to Marathon and Half-Marathon Training! This practical, encouraging guide makes preparing for marathon and half-marathon as rewarding as race day. With coaching advice, running workouts, and training programs from Coach Mario Fraioli, you'll enjoy training and cross the finish line feeling great. Coach Mario will guide you from sign-up to finish line. With his expert advice, you'll choose your race, set your goals, select the right gear, and move swiftly through a beginner or experienced marathon or half-marathon training program. Fraioli covers all of running's most important topics: dynamic warm-up exercises, smart and realistic workouts, healthy sports nutrition and hydration guidelines, tips for quick and complete recovery, strength training and crosstraining, advice to treat common running injuries, and strategies for race week and race day. He offers useful tools like running pace charts, a sweat loss calculator, and a preview of each Rock 'n' Roll race course. The Rock 'n' Roll Marathon and Half-Marathon series is the world's most popular running series because each race is a fun and feel-good challenge. Now with the Official Rock 'n' Roll Guide, you'll be ready to rock your marathon or half-marathon.

18 week half marathon training schedule: Marathon and Half-Marathon Running Steve Trew, 2014-06-30 Crowood Sports Guides provide sound, practical advice that will make you into a better sportsperson, whether you are learning the basic skills, discovering more advanced techniques or reviewing the fundamentals of your sport. Contents include: the history of the marathon and the myths that have grown around it; the big races and practical advice on how to enter; deciding on what type of event is right for you; correct shoes and clothing; how to form a training schedule and train progressively, building up mileage for your first event; a discussion of tapering and race preparation, and the correct nutrition and hydration for your race; tips for achieving a positive mental attitude; dealing with injury; progression onwards from your first marathon or half-marathon. Aimed at beginner to intermediate runners and superbly illustrated with over 200 colour photographs.

18 week half marathon training schedule: *Daniels' Running Formula* Jack Daniels, 2022 In the fourth edition of Daniels' Running Formula, legendary running coach Jack Daniels has refined his revolutionary VDOT system, providing more precise training pace plans and expanding coverage of ultradistance training, triathlon preparation, and training in challenging environments.

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18 week half marathon training schedule: The Competitive Runner's Handbook Bob Glover, Shelly-lynn Florence Glover, 1999-04-01 For both runners entering that first neighborhood race and elite marathoners, trainers Bob and Shelly-lynn Florence Glover's completely revised guide is the book on training to compete. A book that's already sold close to 200,000 copies, The Competitive Runner's Handbook will now offer all the latest information needed to design basic training

programs; special workouts to increase strength, endurance, and power; schedules and worksheets to develop individual goals; and specifics on preparing for all kinds of races—with an emphasis on the 10K and the marathon. Informed by their over thirty years of coaching experience, the Glovers give winning tips on alternative training, footwear and diet, and common injuries and illnesses, as well as sensible advice on balancing running with work and home life.

18 week half marathon training schedule: Marathon, All-New 4th Edition Hal Higdon, 2011-09-27 Especially in tough economic times, running offers an affordable and positive way to relieve stress and gain a sense of accomplishment. Marathons and—more than ever—half-marathons are the ultimate achievement for runners and have experienced an unprecedented boom in the last several years. New hunger for reliable information on marathon and half-marathon training, as well as new technologies that have revolutionized ordinary people's ability to train intelligently, means the time is right for a new edition of longtime Runner's World contributor Hal Higdon's classic guide to taking the guesswork out of preparing for a marathon, whether it's a reader's first or fiftieth. At the core of the book is Higdon's clear and essential information on training, injury prevention, and nutrition. With more than 25 percent new material, this fourth edition of a running classic is a must-own for both longtime runners and those new to the sport.

18 week half marathon training schedule: The Nonrunner's Marathon Guide for Women Dawn Dais, 2019-09-10 Anyone can run a marathon. Dawn Dais makes it a little more bearable -- and a lot more fun Dawn Dais hated running. And it didn't like her much, either. Her fitness routine consisted of avoiding the stairs in her own house, because who really has the energy to climb stairs? It was with this exercise philosophy firmly in place that she set off to complete a marathon. The Nonrunner's Marathon Guide for Women is the ideal training manual for women who don't believe that running is their biological destiny but who dream of crossing the finish line nonetheless. Nonrunners offers a realistic training schedule and is chock-full of how-to's and funny observations, which she felt were lacking in the guides she had consulted. She also integrates entries from her journal, sharing everything would-be marathoners need to know about the gear, the blisters, the early morning workouts, the late-night carb binges, and most important of all, the amazing rewards. Running may not seem like a friendly endeavor, but with Dawn Dais, you can tame the beast and hit the marathon trail.

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18 week half marathon training schedule: Smart Marathon Training Jeff Horowitz, 2011-10-01 Old-school marathon training plans ask runners to crank out 70 to 100 miles a week. It's no wonder those who make it to the start line are running ragged. Smart Marathon Training maps out a healthier, more economical approach to training that emphasizes quality over quantity. With more than 75 detailed exercises plus six easy-to-follow training plans for half and full marathons, Smart Marathon Training will get you to the starting line feeling refreshed and ready to run your best race yet. This innovative program eliminates junk miles, paring down training to three essential runs per week and adding a dynamic strength and cross-training program to build overall fitness. Runners will train for their best performance in less time and avoid the injuries, overtraining, and burnout that come from running too much. Smart Marathon Training builds up a runner's body to resist injury. Runners gain the strength they need to run long using functional exercises that target the hips, glutes, and quads. Running is a full-body sport, so this training program also builds a strong core and upper body to avoid injuries that begin above the waist. No one fakes a marathon or half-marathon--everyone has to do the work. But Smart Marathon Training replaces long, grinding miles with low-impact cross-training. Horowitz outlines a cycling plan to complement run workouts, boosting base fitness while saving runners' bodies for their best runs.

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and other related topics.

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