

www.bluehorizoncounselling.com.au

Body Scan Checklist

Releasing tension in the body Relaxed body – Relaxed mind

How do you know that you are relaxed in your body? Listed below are the areas of your body where you can usually feel some tension or muscle tightness. Complete the checklist before and after the body scan exercise. Take notice of which parts of your body feel different, perhaps feeling heavier or more relaxed. Do this as many times as you want. Learn again what it feels like to be completely relaxed.

Areas of Tension	Ø	Body Scan Instructions
Forehead		First, sit comfortably and shake your body loose, releasing any
Top of the head		obvious tension. If you like, you can close your eyes or lower your
Back of the head		gaze, whichever option is more comfortable for you. Take a couple of deep breaths and let go of any tensions completely as you breathe out Now pay attention to your:
Jaws		
Cheeks		
Mouth and Tongue		
Muscles around your eyes		
Back of the neck		Scalp and forehead (notice tingling, pulsing, pressure) Stay with
Side of the neck		these sensations for a moment before moving to your
Throat]
Shoulders		Face and lower part of the head (soften your eyes, let your
Forearms		mouth and jaw go slack) And then your
Arms		
Hands		Neck, throat, shoulders, arms and hands (like stroking or massaging your body with your mind) And now pay attention to your
Palms		
Fingers		
Sides		
Lower back		Chest and upper back (feel the lungs expand and contract) And next your diaphragm and solar plexus (feel the movement of your lower ribs) Now your
Upper back		
Chest		
Stomach		
Buttock		Belly and lower back (feel the soft organs move slightly as you breathe) Then your
Thighs		
Calves		
Feet		Hips, legs and feet (feel or imagine the breath dropping through your body) And now pay attention to your body as a whole. Take a couple of deep breaths.
Toes		
Sensations in your body:		
Relaxed		
Sluggish / Slack		If your eyes were closed you can gently open your eyes.
Heavy		
Cosy		
Rested		
Tired		
Sleepy		