WHAT IS SELF-CARE?

Self-care is the intentional practice of activities that nurture your physical, mental, and emotional health.

WHY PRACTICE SELF-CARE?

In our fast-paced world, self-care is not just optional; it's essential. When your mental health is strong, self-care acts as a preventative measure, maintaining your wellbeing. However, if you're facing challenges, self care becomes even more crucial, preventing a downward spiral. By focusing on self-care, you're prioritizing your most critical functions, boosting self-esteem, and fostering resilience.

FROM THE LIST OF SELF CARE IDEAS BELOW, START TO SELECT SOME THAT MOST RESONATE WITH YOU:

	TO SELECT SOME THAT		Sensory.
1	OST RESONATE WITH YOU:		Lighting a scented candle
	Social:		Having a day spa at home
	Catching up with a friend over a		Enjoying the warmth of sunlight for vitamin D
	cup of coffee Participating in a community		Listening to natural sounds (like rain or waves)
	event Limiting time on social media		Trying out new textures or crafts
	Joining a club or group of interest		Physical:
	Volunteering for a cause you	Ш	Morning exercise routine
	care about		Bubble bath
_			Healthy snack
//	Emotional:		A walk in fresh air
	Gratitude journaling		Yoga
	Enjoying a cup of tea and		Stretching
	reflection		Mental:
	Reading a book		Learning new things through a short
	Listening to your favourite		course or workshop
	music Having a good cry when needed		Solving puzzles or playing strategy games
			Setting boundaries to ensure personal time
			Practicing mindfulness or meditation
			Decluttering your space for mental
			clarity

MAKING YOUR SELF-CARE



MENU

STEP BY STEP GUIDE:

- 1. **Divide your menu** into "Everyday Self-Care" for regular practices and "Emergency Self-Care" for tough days. The templates below have been labelled as temporary and everyday if you would like separate menus.
- 2. List of Self-Care Ideas: Compile a list of self-care activities. Include a mix of quick things for busy days and longer activities for when you have more time.
- 3. Variety and Balance: Ensure your menu includes a variety of activities that cater to different aspects of your well-being.

 Balance is key; mix physical activities with mental relaxation and social connections.
- 4. Flexibility: Remember, your self-care menu isn't set in stone. Feel free to adjust it, adding new self-care ideas or removing ones that no longer serve you.

EVERYDAY VS EMERGENCY

Everyday practices:

These should be activities you can easily integrate into your daily routine. Incorporate simple practices like words of affirmation, or enjoying a healthy snack.

Emergency self care:
Identify activities that
provide extra comfort
on challenging days,
such as watching your
favorite movie, calling
a loved one, or
practicing deep
breathing exercises.

IMPLEMENTING YOUR MENU

- 1. **Start Small**: Begin with easy steps that can fit into your routine like a five-minute meditation each morning or a short walk during lunch.
- 2. Listen to Your Body and Mind: Pay attention to what you need each day. Some days you might need more physical activity, while on others, mental rest could be more beneficial.
- 3. Be Flexible: Your self-care needs will change over time. Be open to adapting your self-care practices as needed.
- 4. Daily Integration: Aim to incorporate at least one self-care activity from your menu each day. This helps in forming lasting habits.
- 5. Reflect and Adjust: Regularly reflect on how your self-care activities are impacting your well-being. Adjust your menu based on what brings you the most peace and fulfillment.









