



Marathon Training Program

Training Paces Worksheet

The Furman Institute of Running and Scientific Training (FIRST) marathon training program is based on results from FIRST's training studies. Results indicate that runners are able to improve race performances running only three days a week, following a specific training plan, and cross-training.

This training program has produced good results with Key Run #1 on Tuesday, Key Run #2 on Thursday and the long run completed on the weekend. Runners can do the three key workouts in any order throughout the week; however, you need to allow at least one day between the key workouts. Runners are encouraged to either cross-train or complete easy runs on other days of the week.

Below is a sample week of the FIRST Marathon Training Program.

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
Cross-train 30 - 45 min.	Key Run #1	Cross-train 30 - 45 min.	Key Run #2	Off	Key Run #3	Cross Train or Rest

Pacing is a crucial component to this training program. From our running experience and previous research, it appears that training intensity is the most important factor for improving the physiological processes that determine running performance. Training program paces are based on current best 5K RACE pace. To determine your various training paces for this marathon training program, you will need a current 5K race time. Convert your 5K race time from minutes and seconds to a decimal figure. For example, a 22:18 time for a 5K would convert to 22.3

Step 1. Your 5K race time in minutes:seconds: _____

Step 2. Your 5K race time in decimal form: _____ (divide seconds by 60 to convert to decimal format)

Step 3. Your 5K race pace in decimal form: _____ (divide Step 2. by 3.1 to convert to mile pace in decimal)

Step 4. Your 5K race pace in minutes/mile: _____ (multiple decimals by 60 to convert back to seconds)

<u>Key Run #1 Paces</u>	<u>Key Run #1 Paces (use time from Step 4)</u>	<u>Your Pace</u>
400m @ 5K pace/mile – 40 sec.	(Step 4) _____ - 40 sec. = _____; divide by 4 for 400m pace	_____/400m
600m @ 5K pace/mile – 35 sec.	(Step 4) _____ - 35 sec. = _____; divide by 2.7 for 600m pace	_____/600m
800m @ 5K pace/mile – 30 sec.	(Step 4) _____ - 30 sec. = _____; divide by 2 for 800m pace	_____/800m
1000m @ 5K pace/mile – 27 sec.	(Step 4) _____ - 27 sec. = _____; divide by 1.6 for 1000m pace	_____/1000m
1200m @ 5K pace/mile – 25 sec.	(Step 4) _____ - 25 sec. = _____; divide by 1.3 for 1200m pace	_____/1200m
1600m @ 5K pace/mile – 15 sec.	(Step 4) _____ - 15 sec. = _____; use this time for 1600m pace	

<u>Key Run #2 Paces (threshold runs)</u>	<u>Key Run #2 Paces (use time from Step 1)</u>	<u>Your Pace</u>
Short Tempo = 5K pace + 20 sec.	Short Tempo (ST) = (Step 1) _____ + 20 sec. = _____ min./mile	
Mid Tempo = 5K pace + 35 sec.	Mid Tempo (MT) = (Step 1) _____ + 35 sec. = _____ min./mile	
Long Tempo = 5K pace + 50 sec.	Long Tempo (LT) = (Step 1) _____ + 50 sec. = _____ min./mile	

<u>Key Run #3 Paces (long runs)</u>	<u>PMP = _____ min./mile OR 5K pace/mile + 1 min = _____ min./mile</u>
Long run paces are based on	PMP + 15 sec./mile = _____ min./mile
Planned Marathon Pace (PMP).	PMP + 20 sec./mile = _____ min./mile
If unsure, use 5K pace/mile + 1 min.	PMP + 30 sec./mile = _____ min./mile

Example: A 5K race time of 22:18 = 7:12/mile pace

√ The pace for 800m would be a 6:42/mile pace or ~3:21 for the 800m

√ The pace for a MT run would be 7:47/mile (7:12 + 35 sec.)

√ PMP would be 8:12/mile (7:12 + 1:00); a long run of PMP +30 would be 8:42 mile (PMP of 8:12 + 30 sec.)