

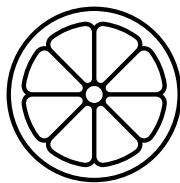
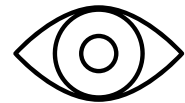


The 5 Senses

Use this Five Senses Exercise as a simple, versatile way to evoke a mindful state wherever you are. The goal of this exercise is to practice being aware in the present moment throughout the day whenever formal mindfulness practice such as meditation or a body scan might not be practical. It is simply a guide to help you or your client become attuned to the five senses.

Notice five things that you can see

Cast your eyes around and bring your attention to five things you might not normally notice. Choose something you wouldn't ordinarily pay attention to, like a shadow or a small crack in the concrete.



Notice one thing that you can taste

Focus on one thing you can taste right now, in this moment. You can take a sip of coffee, savour some chocolate, eat something, notice the current taste in your mouth, or even open it to search the air for a taste.

Notice four things that you can feel

Bring your awareness to four things you are currently feeling, like the texture of your pants, the feeling of the breeze on your skin, or the smooth surface of a table you are resting your hands on.



Notice two things that you can smell

Tune your senses into smells you might usually gloss over, whether they're pleasant or unpleasant. Perhaps the breeze is carrying the scent of pine trees if you're outside, or the smell of cafe from the sidewalk.

Notice three things that you can hear

Try to tune in to the sounds of your surroundings. What can you hear in the background? This might be a bird singing, the low hum of the refrigerator, or the faint sounds of traffic from a nearby road.

