

Keep Back Pain at Bay

Back pain is a common reason people visit a doctor each year. Try these tips to protect your back.

Pay attention to your posture. Sit up straight with your back against your chair and feet flat on the floor. Stand tall with your head up and shoulders back.

Keep your back strong. Move more. Strengthen your back with moderate activity like walking 150 minutes a week. Stretch your muscles at least two days a week.

Lift things the right way. Use your legs to lift boxes. Keep your back straight and bend at your knees. Get help if something is too heavy to lift alone.

Tip the scales in your favor. Lighten the load on your back and drop a few pounds if you need to. Take steps to maintain a healthy weight throughout your lifetime.

Nourish your bones. Prevent osteoporosis. Eat foods rich in calcium and vitamin D. Consider taking a calcium supplement and vitamin D.

Show your back some love.

Source: Prevent Back Pain. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. 2020.

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