

Dashing Whippets 2022 Training Plan for the Chicago Marathon (Intermediate Plan)

This *intermediate* 14-week plan helps runners prepare for the Chicago Marathon. Intermediate runners should have logged 30-35 miles per week for at least a month before beginning this plan. This plan is designed for those who have completed a marathon(s) in the past but may have done little-to-no speedwork in training for previous marathons

Overview:

Week	Purpose	Weekly Miles...			Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	
		Min	Mid	Max	Recovery Run	Long interval workout	REST, easy run, or cross train	Longer midweek recovery run	REST	Long run	REST, easy run, or cross train	
4-Jul	Base building & aerobic conditioning	35	40	44	5	7.5	4	7	REST	15	5	
11-Jul					5	9	4	7		16	5	
18-Jul					5	8	4	7		18	5	
25-Jul					5	8	5	8		3	3	8
1-Aug					5	9	5	8		18	5	
8-Aug					6	8.5	5	8		20	5	
15-Aug					6	11	5	8		18	5	
22-Aug					6	10	6	8		20	5	
29-Aug					6	12	6	9		18	5	
	Lactate clearance	29	32	40	45-55 min easy with strides/ drills	1.5M w/u; 4M @ HMP (3:00 rest), 800m @ 5k pace (3:00 rest), 2x200m @ Mile pace (1:00 rest); 1-1.5M c/d	Crosstrain/ Yoga/ 0 to 45 min easy w/ strides & drills	70-75 min easy with strides/ drills	REST or up to 30 min easy with strides/ drills	REST or up to 30 min easy with strides/ drills	Team Champs!!	
	Aerobic conditioning & neuromuscular fitness	40	45	50	45-55 min easy with strides/ drills	2M w/u; 5 Miles @ MP; 2M c/d	Crosstrain/ Yoga/ 0 to 45 min easy w/ strides & drills	70-75 min easy with strides/ drills	REST	2:40 to 2:50 @ long run pace	Crosstrain/ Yoga/ 0 to 45 min easy w/ strides & drills	
	Specific endurance	43	48	53	50-60 min easy with strides/ drills	2M w/u; 7-8 Miles @ MP; 2M c/d	Crosstrain/ Yoga/ 0 to 45 min easy w/ strides & drills	70-75 min easy with strides/ drills	REST	2:40 to 2:50 @ long run pace	Crosstrain/ Yoga/ 0 to 45 min easy w/ strides & drills	
	Specific endurance	44	49	55	50-60 min easy with strides/ drills	2M w/u; 10-12 Canova Ks; 2M c/d	Crosstrain/ Yoga/ 0 to 55 min easy w/ strides & drills	70-75 min easy with strides/ drills	REST	20 miles @ long run pace	Crosstrain/ Yoga/ 0 to 45 min easy w/ strides & drills	
	Specific endurance	45	50	56	50-60 min easy with strides/ drills	2M w/u; 64-72 minutes @ MP; 2M c/d	Crosstrain/ Yoga/ 0 to 55 min easy w/ strides & drills	80-85 min easy with strides/ drills	REST	18 miles @ long run pace	Crosstrain/ Yoga/ 0 to 45 min easy w/ strides & drills	

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		Min	Mid	Max	Recovery Run	Long interval workout	REST, easy run, or cross train	Longer midweek recovery run	REST	Long run	REST, easy run, or cross train
5-Sep	10	46	51	57	6	9	6	9	REST	22	5
					50-60 min easy with strides/ drills	2M w/u; 5-6 Miles @ HMP; 2M c/d	Crosstrain/ Yoga/ 0 to 55 min easy w/ strides & drills	80-85 min easy with strides/ drills		22 miles @ MP plus 45-60 sec/ mile	Crosstrain/ Yoga/ 0 to 45 min easy w/ strides & drills
12-Sep	11	31	44	50	6	11	6	9	REST	5	13
					50-60 min easy with strides/ drills	2M w/u; 8-9 Miles @ MP; 2M c/d	Crosstrain/ Yoga/ 0 to 55 min easy w/ strides & drills	80-85 min easy with strides/ drills		REST or up to 45 min easy with strides/ drills	Bronx 10-miler (Club Points); 2-3M w/u, race, 1-2M c/d
19-Sep	12	45	50	56	6	12	6	9	REST	18	5
					50-60 min easy with strides/ drills	If raced: 100-110 min easy with strides/ drills. Otherwise: 2M w/u; 6 miles @ HMP; 2M c/d	Crosstrain/ Yoga/ 0 to 55 min easy w/ strides & drills	80-85 min easy with strides/ drills		17-20 miles @ MP plus 45-60 sec/ mile seconds	Crosstrain/ Yoga/ 0 to 45 min easy w/ strides & drills
26-Sep	13	35	40	44	6	10	4	7	REST	12	5
					50-60 min easy with strides/ drills	85 min with middle 4 miles @ MP	Crosstrain/ Yoga/ 0 to 35 min easy w/ strides & drills	60-65 min easy with strides/ drills		12 miles easy with last 2 miles @ MP	Crosstrain/ Yoga/ 0 to 45 min easy w/ strides & drills
3-Oct	14	43	43	45	5	6	REST	3.5	2	2	26.2
					45-55 min easy with strides/ drills	50-60 min easy with strides/ drills		30 min easy with strides/ drills	REST or 10-20 min shakeout	REST or 10-20 min shakeout	Chicago Marathon!

Terminology & Workout Descriptions

Easy pace	Goal: build aerobic conditioning. Very low-intensity effort; should be able to talk on the phone without the caller knowing you are running. Conversation pace!
Rest days	One to three days per week should have little or no sustained activity. It is OK for dedicated gym members to do strength/flexibility work (resistance/weights, plyometrics, stretch, etc.) on these days, but AVOID overdoing strength work -- recovery is critical to developing endurance.
Aerobic conditioning	Capacity and stamina of the heart to supply muscles with oxygen for the main energy supply in races longer than 800 meters. Typically improved via long runs and tempo runs.
Neuromuscular fitness	Strength and efficiency of muscles that convert energy into forward motion. Typically improved via strides, form drills, strength training, and shorter high-speed interval runs with full recovery.
Specific endurance	The appropriate blend of aerobic conditioning and neuromuscular fitness to achieve the best possible result in a specific distance race (for example, a 10K). Typically improved via longer race-pace interval runs with very short recovery (<3 mins).
Lactate clearance	Training at mixed paces around the lactate threshold point (speed at which lactic acid accumulates, an indicator of oncoming fatigue). This training results in a higher threshold, i.e. the ability to race faster without risking fatigue.

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Overview: speedwork in training for previous marathons

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		Min	Mid	Max	Recovery Run	Long interval workout	REST, easy run, or cross train	Longer midweek recovery run	REST	Long run	REST, easy run, or cross train
	Aerobic cross-training	Any easy run shorter than 30 minutes can be replaced with a comparable duration of LOW INTENSITY aerobic system cross-training, such as swimming, cycling, skating or hiking.									
	Long Run pace	Goal: build aerobic conditioning and running economy. This is a little faster than easy pace, but is still 45-60 seconds per mile slower than marathon pace.									
	Progression pace	Goal: build aerobic conditioning. Most of the run is at Long Run pace, but the last 25-50% slowly builds to half marathon pace (or, in the case of marathoners, top speed is marathon pace). Finish with 1M easy.									
	Hill repeats	Goal: develop neuromuscular fitness. Relatively short repeats (200m to 800m) on uphill at faster than 15K race pace, with full recovery.									
	Canova Ks	Goal: lactate clearance and development of running economy for half marathon and longer. A continuous run that alternates between half marathon pace (for 1K) and marathon pace (for 1K), with no rest between pace changes									
	Recovery	All recovery periods after speed intervals should be active (slow jogging) to flush buildup of lactic acid and keep heart working at steady pace. If you start to get fatigued during interval workouts, do NOT lengthen recovery period -- instead, slow down pace of speedwork or end the workout									
	Strides, Form drills, Core exercises	Goal: develop neuromuscular fitness. Various exercises to strengthen muscles, teach good form, and improve running economy. Strides: 80-100 meters of steady acceleration, hold at 90% of full speed, steady deceleration. Form drills and core strengthening exercises: Will be taught at each workout to runners who aren't familiar with them.									
	Half marathon, 10K, 5K (etc.) race pace	Current estimated race pace -- should be your best estimate of the 5K, 10K, half marathon you are capable of TODAY rather than personal record (PR) or goal pace. External circumstances such as weather are factors to be considered when determining that workout's pace. Exception: Marathon pace is your GOAL or PROJECTED marathon pace in a marathon at the end of training, even if you aren't ready to do 26.2M at that pace today.									