

Self Care Toolkit For Nurses

Empowering Nurses to Thrive -Mind, Body and Career





How to Use This Toolkit

This isn't a checklist. It's a reset. **You don't have to earn your rest.** You just have to receive it.

Here's How:

🔽 Start where you are.

Flip to what you need — there's no right order.

∑ Go at your own pace. One page a day or a full weekend reset — your choice. ✓ Make it yours. Write. Highlight. Reflect. This space is for you.

◎ Come back as needed.

This isn't a one-time tool - it's a lifeline.



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"You can't pour from an empty cup — but you can refill it on purpose."

Dear Murse.

You are more than your shift.
You are more than your scrubs.
You are a whole human being — and you deserve to feel whole, too.

This toolkit was created to nourish your spirit, reconnect you to your purpose, and remind you that healing starts within.

Take what you need. Leave what you don't. Come back as often as you like.

This space is for YOU.

With heart, Frankie Bell, DNP, NC–BC, NPD–BC Founder, Vibrant Mosaic

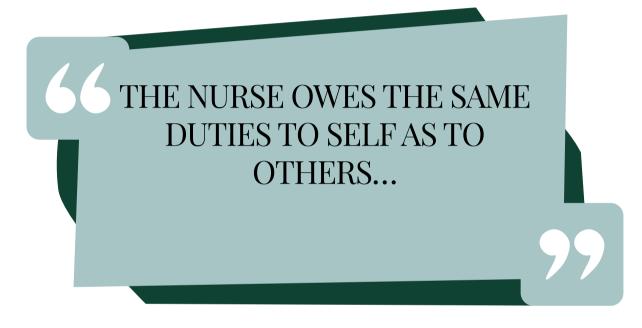


The Importance of Self-Care in Nursing

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IT'S NOT JUST PERSONAL — IT'S PROFESSIONAL.

FROM THE ANA CODE OF ETHICS (PROVISION 5):



This means you have a duty to care for yourself:

- To protect your health.
- To set boundaries.
- To grow.
- To rest.
- To stay whole.



What Self-Care Looks Like in Practice:

03

TAKING BREAKS — WITHOUT GUILT

SAYING "NO" — WITHOUT APOLOGY

RECONNECTING WITH YOUR PURPOSE

CARING FOR YOUR MENTAL HEALTH

CHOOSING REST BEFORE BURNOUT

WHEN YOU CARE FOR YOURSELF, YOU MODEL HEALING. WHEN YOU THRIVE, NURSING THRIVES.

Self-Care CHECKLIST

Self-care isn't an act but a loving commitment to oneself. How are you going to cherish yourself this week?

Physical Self-Care	Μ	Т	W	Т	F	S	S
Cook a healthy, nourishing meal							
Drink a glass of water in the morning							
Exercise or move your body							
Do skincare routine							
Take a long bath or shower							

Mind & Soul Self-Care	Μ	Т	W	Т	F	S	S
Attend a workshop or class							
Read for 30 minutes							
Listen to a podcast episode							
Learn something new							
Plan out your week in advance							

Emotional Self-Care	Μ	Т	W	Т	F	S	S
Practice daily gratitude							
Spend time with a loved one							
Foster a positive mindset							
Spend time outdoors and in nature							
Journal your thoughts							



Daily Self Care Check In

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HOW AM I FEELING TODAY (EMOTIONALLY + PHYSICALLY)?

UWHAT IS ONE THING MY BODY NEEDS RIGHT NOW?

WHAT IS ONE THING MY MIND NEEDS RIGHT NOW?

ONE SMALL ACT OF KINDNESS I WILL GIVE MYSELF TODAY:

Burnout SOS Checklist

06

Signs I May Need Immediate Self-Care: (Check the ones you are feeling)

Constant exhaustion despite sleep.

Feeling disconnected or numb.

Emotional outbursts (crying, anger, shutting down)

Dreading every shift or even days off.

Question why I'm still doing this?

QUICK BURNOUT RESET ACTION PLAN:

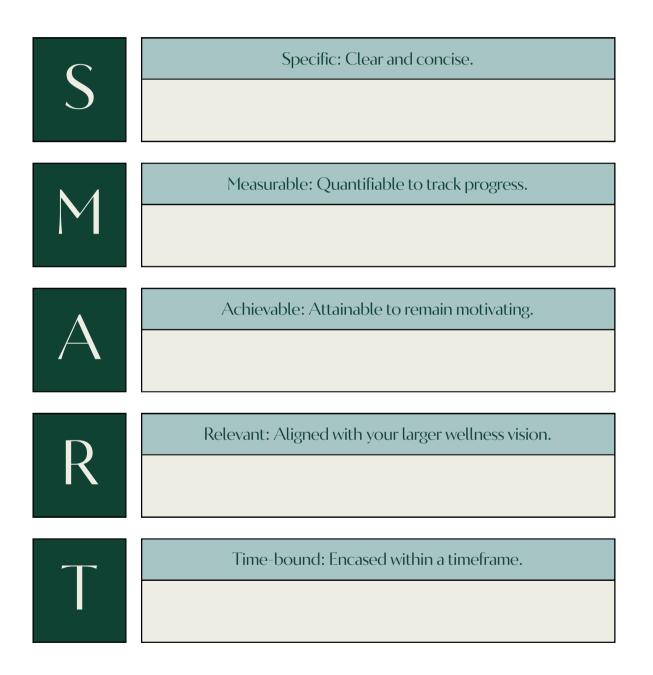
≰ One boundary I need to set immediately:

YOU DON'T NEED TO BE AT ROCK BOTTOM TO REST.

SMART GOALS MAPPING 07

Concrete goals are your wellness milestones. Let's set goals that are SMART:

Example: Your Goal: Take a 10-minute walk 3x/week SMART Breakdown >> S: Walk 10 mins, M: 3x, A: Yes, R: Supports stress relief T: Weekly



Sketch your goals with kindness, remembering that they are fluid and can adapt to your journey's needs.

The Eisenhower Box

You triage everything at work – now it's time to triage your life.

Use the Eisenhower Box to sort what you'll:

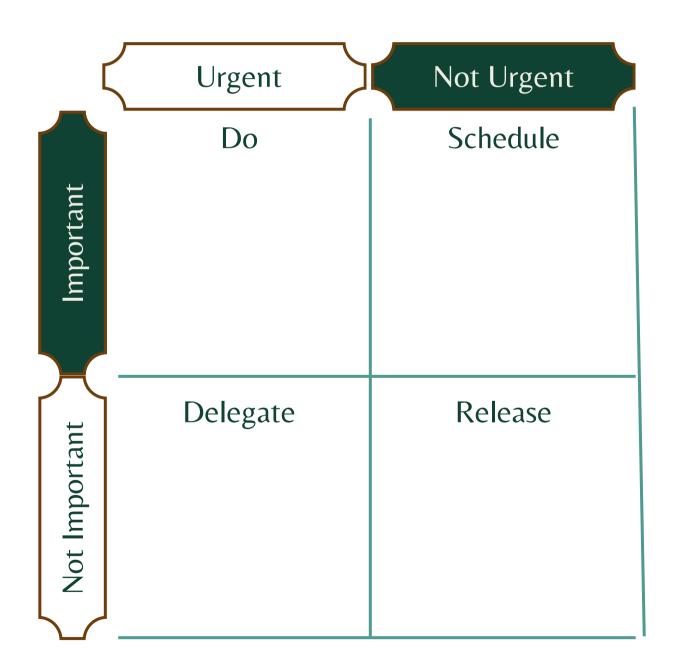








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What's one thing I can delegate or release today?

30 DAYS SELF-CARE

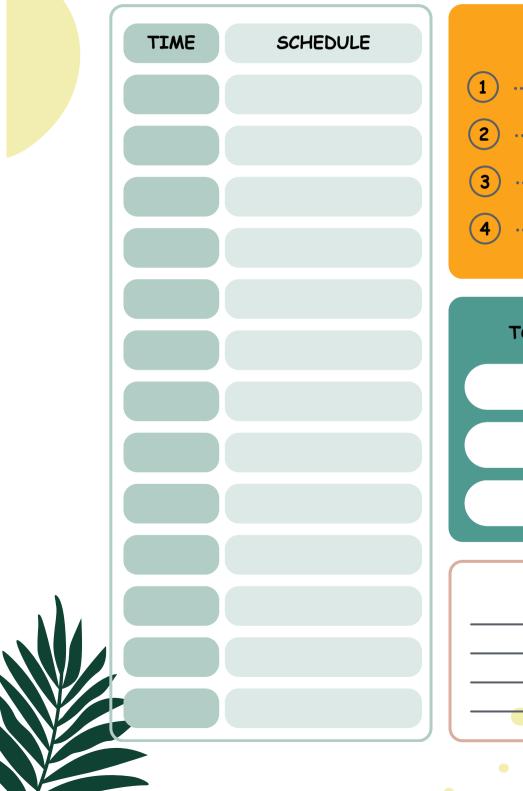
MONTH:

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DAILY ROUTINE

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TODAY'S MEAL

NOTES





MONDAY	
TUESDAY	
WEDNESDAY	
THURSDAY	
FRIDAY	
SATURDAY	
SUNDAY	



Eating well isn't about eating perfect — it's about fueling your body with care. Especially in nursing, when meals are skipped or rushed, your body deserves extra love.

💡 Try:

- Hydrate first
- Keep quick snacks on hand (nuts, fruit, bars)
- Add one colorful food daily
- Eat before you're starving
- Embrace smart shortcuts (pre-chopped veggies count!)



MEAL PLANNER

/...../...../...../

DAY	BREAKFAST	LUNCH	DINNER	
MONDAY				
TUESDAY				
WEDNESDAY				
THURSDAY				
FRIDAY				•
SATURDAY				
SUNDAY				



WATER INTAKE

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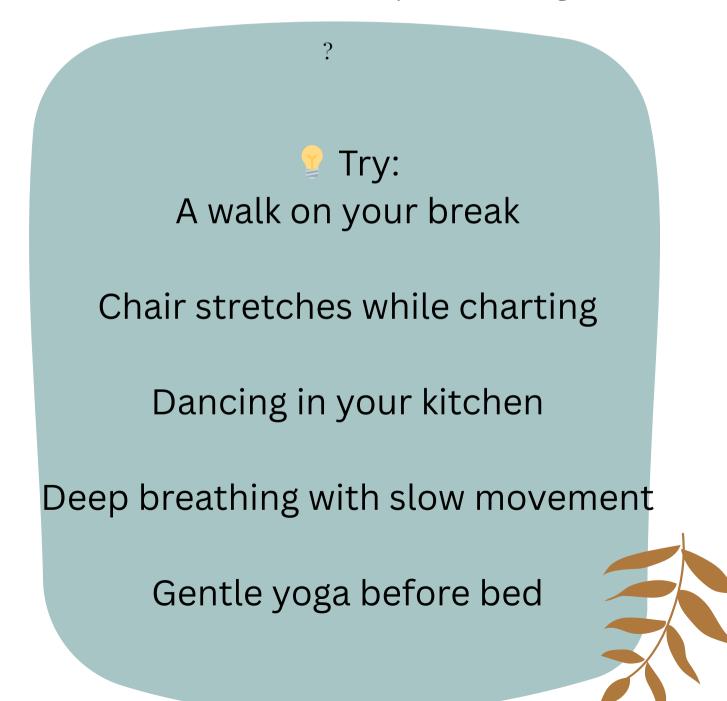




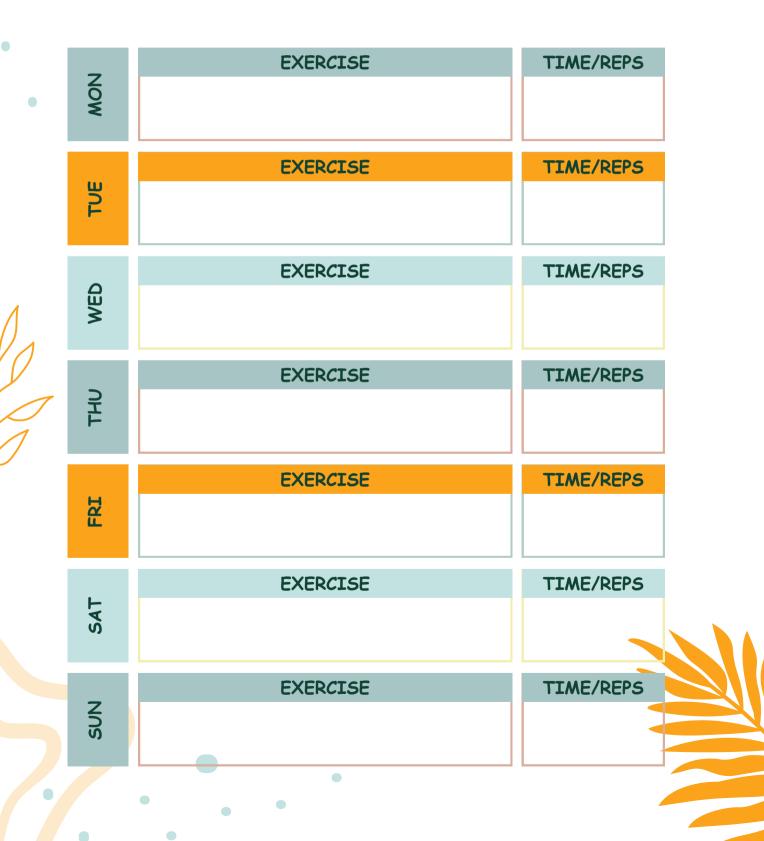




Even 5 minutes of movement can reduce stress, boost your mood, and help you come back to yourself. It doesn't have to be intense — it just has to feel good.



WORKOUT TRACKER



Free Resources for ¹⁷

Nurses

Support, tools, and nourishment — no login or payment needed.

- Movement & Exercise
 - Yoga With Adriene (gentle, beginner-friendly)
 - POPSUGAR Fitness (quick & fun workouts)
 - HASfit (home-friendly strength, stretch & recovery)
 - Darebee (printable, no-equipment workouts)

🕅 Nutrition & Nourishment

- <u>MyPlate (USDA basic nutrition tools)</u>
- <u>Budget Bytes (affordable, healthy recipes)</u>
- Toby Amidor, RD (realistic nutrition tips)

Mental Wellness & Reflection

- Insight Timer (free meditation + sleep support)
- <u>Therapy for Black Girls (directory + podcast)</u>
- National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)



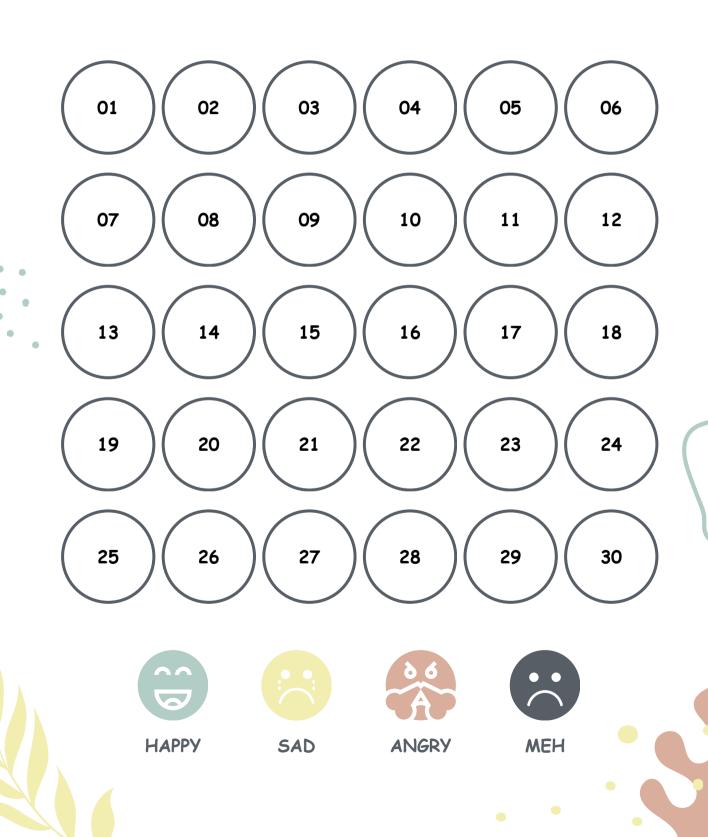


MOOD TRACKER

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MONTH:

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Connect with Vibrant Mosaic

✤ Coaching that puts the nurse first.



Ready for More?

You've taken the first step - now let's walk the next part together.

If this toolkit spoke to your spirit, imagine what a personalized coaching session could do. Let's clarify your goals, restore your energy, and reignite your purpose — together.

> **@** Book a FREE 20-minute clarity session: Explore nurse coaching with Frankie Bell, DNP, NC-BC

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