# Stress and Essential Oils

#### $\square$ tick the boxes as you learn

ln a nutshell

- Stress happens (period)
- Management is the key
- 1. Identify & understand
- 2. Reduce stress triggers
- 3. Recover from stress events

Stressed? What's your stress level?

- □ 1-Under control
- $\square$  2-On edge and alert
- □ 3-Feeling a bit uneasy
- □ 4-Unsure, unsafe, and unsettled
- □ 5-Still alive, but not sure why
- □ 6-Desperate, about to panic
- □ 7-Something must to change NOW!

#### Stress is serious

- 43% of all adults suffer adverse health effects from stress.
- 75% to 90% of all doctor's office visits are for stress-related ailments and complaints.
- <u>Stress costs</u> American industry more than \$300 billion annually.

\*see benbalden.com/stress for sources

# What stress may be costing you

- □ high blood pressure
- □ heart disease
- □ obesity
- □ diabetes
- □ acne and other skin conditions
- $\Box$  allergies and asthma
- □ arthritis
- □ digestive discomfort
- □ muscle tension or pain
- □ on edge or restlessness
- □ irritability or anger

- □ depression and anxiety  $\Box$  infertility
- □ autoimmune disorders
- □ sleep difficulties
- □ eating disorders (e.g. overeating)
- □ addictions
- □ tension headaches
- □ fatigue (including chronic or adrenal fatique)
- □ lack of motivation or energy
- □ death (seriously, people die)

## What is stress

"Stress is simply your brain responding to any demand or threat."











Temporarily Smarter and Stronger



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### What causes your stress (stress triggers or stressors)? (Real or Imagined\*)

#### **External Stressors**

- □ Major life changes
- □ Work or school
- □ Relationship difficulties
- □ Financial problems
- □ Being too busy
- □ Children and family
- □ Physical, chemical, or emotional □ All-or-nothing attitude
- □ other

#### **Internal Stressors**

- □ Pessimism
- □ Inability to accept uncertainty
- □ Rigid thinking, lack of flexibility
- □ Negative self-talk
- □ Unrealistic expectations / perfectionism
- Dooms-day scenarios

\*Your stress system doesn't distinguish between real or imagines, life-threatening or harmless, etc. It's the same stress response

How are you dealing with stress right now?		
Supportive	Unsupportive	
Exercise	🗆 Alcohol	
Massage	Drugs	
□ Naps	Over eating comfort foods	
Social interaction	Blaming & complaining	
Visualization	Victim thinking	
Hobbies	Promiscuity or pornography	
Meditation	□ Angry outbursts	
Breathing	Work, work, work	

# How essential oils can help

- Safe, effective, concentrated, powerful, quick, and smell good
- Can be used with any other stress management method •
- Can be used alone
- Can be used at any time or place (even in the shower or in space) •







## Manage Stress Effectively

- Step 1) Identify the stress trigger and your biological response
- Step 2) Reduce or remove the stress trigger if possible (simplify life)
- Step 3) Recover from the stressful episode (reset your stress system)
  - Notice the path your stress takes and the biological response
    - o Choose a technique, oil, or both to RESET your stress response system

First, how are you responding to stress?







Fight

Flight

Freeze

Freaking out → need to calm	Withdrawing → need to activate	Unmoving → need to restart
BIOLOGICAL RESPONSES:	BIOLOGICAL RESPONSES:	BIOLOGICAL RESPONSES:
anger, agitation, frustration, irritability, rapid heart rate, hypertension, sleeplessness, hurrying, increased accidents, obsession with time, nervous habits, restricted breathing, muscle tension, or headaches	depression, poor judgment, constant worrying, feelings of being overwhelmed, loneliness or isolation, crying spells, sleeping too much, procrastinating, withdrawing from others, neglecting responsibilities, nervous habits	You freeze or get "stuck" under pressure, doing nothing and letting things get worse, In shock or overwhelmed
STRESS RECOVERY TECHNIQUES:	STRESS RECOVERY TECHNIQUES:	STRESS RECOVERY TECHNIQUES:
activities that <b>quiet you down</b> , meditation, breathing, progressive muscle relaxation, nature bath, essential oils, massage, etc.	stimulating and energizing activities, exercise, breathing, hot bath, play, social interaction, talking, satisfying sex, diverting hobbies, etc.	You likely have experienced some type of trauma. First, arouse the nervous system to a fight or flight response. Do <b>some type of</b> <b>physical activity</b> that uses both your arms or legs.
ESSENTIAL OIL	ESSENTIAL OIL	ESSENTIAL OIL
Lavender – to soothe you Serenity – to calm you Balance – to ground you Petitgrain – to harmonize you Vetiver – to root you InTune – to focus you Frankincense – to uplift you	AromaTouch -to recharge you Ylang Ylang - to temper you Breathe - to open you Wild Orange - to fill you up Citrus Bliss - to warm you Cheer - to cheer you Elevation - to lift you	Balance – to bring you down Peppermint – to awaken you Eucalyptus – to revive you Lime – to bring back life Patchouli – to connect body and mind



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