



BREATHWORK FOR PERFORMANCE

→ Upgrade Focus, Recovery & Mindset – With Flow Science & Mental Fitness Principles.

Why Breathwork is a High-Performance Skill

Breathing is the remote control for your nervous system. Done right, it can sharpen focus, speed recovery, regulate emotions and unlock Flow on demand.

In The Performance Engine™, we use breathwork across all three pillars – Flow, Mental Fitness, and Recovery – to help you train the state you need, when you need it.

1. Flow Breathwork

Flow follows focus – and your breath is one of the fastest ways to direct that focus. Flow-oriented breathing balances oxygen and carbon dioxide levels, calms mental noise and creates the physiological conditions for deep work.

Example Flow Breathwork Technique: Box Breathing (4-4-4-4)

- → Inhale through your nose for 4 seconds
- → Hold for 4 seconds
- → Exhale through your nose for 4 seconds
- → Hold for 4 seconds

Repeat for 2-4 minutes before a high-focus task.

Peak Move: 90-Second Flow Trigger

- \rightarrow Before a high-challenge task, inhale through your nose for 4 counts, hold for 2, exhale through your mouth for 6.
- \rightarrow Repeat for 90 seconds while picturing the first action you'll take. You'll prime your focus circuits and nudge your brain into "Flow follows focus" mode.

2. Mental Fitness Breathwork (PQ)

In PQ Mental Fitness training, breath is used as a mindfulness anchor – a way to quiet your Saboteurs, activate your Sage perspective and bring attention fully into the present moment.

Example PQ Rep: Breath Sensory Focus

- → Close your eyes and take a slow breath in through the nose.
- → As you exhale, notice the subtle temperature change between inhale and exhale.
- \rightarrow Repeat for 10-20 breaths, focusing entirely on the sensation.





Peak Move: PQ Rep Anchor Breath

- \rightarrow Inhale deeply and feel the air fill your lungs. As you exhale slowly, bring all your attention to the physical sensation the rise and fall of your chest, the feeling in your nose, the warmth leaving your body.
- ightarrow Do 3-5 breaths like this to silence mental chatter and boost presence before a critical conversation or decision.

3. Recovery Breathwork

Recovery breathing helps switch your body from fight-or-flight mode (sympathetic) into rest-and-digest mode (parasympathetic). This is key to rapid reset after intense work or training.

Example Recovery Technique: 4-7-8 Breathing

- \rightarrow Inhale quietly through the nose for 4 seconds.
- \rightarrow Hold the breath for 7 seconds.
- → Exhale through the mouth for 8 seconds.
- \rightarrow Repeat for 4 cycles.

Peak Move: Box Breathing Reset

- → Breathe in for 4 counts, hold for 4, exhale for 4, hold for 4.
- \rightarrow Repeat for 2-4 minutes after intense work or training. This simple rhythm downshifts your nervous system, helping you bounce back faster for your next effort.

Quick-Start Exercise

Pick one Flow technique, one PQ Rep, and one Recovery method from above.

Practice each for just 2-3 minutes daily over the next week. Notice how your state shifts – and how much faster you can get back to high performance.





Next Step: Activate Your Performance Engine™

Breath is your fastest lever for shifting state – but it's just one part of the system.

In The Performance Engine™, we integrate these tools with mental fitness, recovery protocols, and Flow triggers so high performance becomes your default.

← Step 1 > Take the free 5-minutes <u>Saboteur Assessment</u>.

NB: Pls select "Yes" to the question "Were you referred by a coach?"

It's revealing, insightful, and usually sparks some big "aha" moments around the mental patterns that may be quietly holding you back.

- Step 3 > <u>Activate Your Performance Engine</u>

