



# HALF MARATHON OFFICIAL TRAINING 2026

## NEW RUNNER/WALKER

WEEK	DATES	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
1	MAY 4-MAY 10	10 MIN Run 2/Walk 1	30 MIN. Easy Walk	15 MIN Run 2/Walk 1	CROSS TRAINING	REST	30 MIN Run 2/Walk 1	REST
2	MAY 11-MAY 17	15 MIN Run 2/Walk 1	30 MIN. Easy Walk	20 MIN Run 2/Walk 1	CROSS TRAINING	REST	35 MIN Run 2/Walk 1	REST
3	MAY 18-MAY 24	20 MIN Run 3/Walk 1	30 MIN. Easy Walk	30 MIN Run 3/Walk 1	CROSS TRAINING	REST	40 MIN Run 4/Walk 1	REST
4	MAY 25-MAY 31	30 MIN Run 4/Walk 1	30 MIN. Easy Walk	35 MIN Run 4/Walk 1	CROSS TRAINING	REST	45 MIN Run 3/Walk 1	REST
5	JUNE 1-JUNE 7	35 MIN Run 4/Walk 1	30 MIN. Easy Walk	35 MIN Run 4/Walk 1	CROSS TRAINING	REST	50 MIN Run 3/Walk 1	REST
6	JUNE 8-JUNE 14	40 MIN Run 5/Walk 1	30 MIN. Easy Walk	40 MIN Run 5/Walk 1	CROSS TRAINING	REST	55 MIN Run 4/Walk 1	REST
1	JUNE 15-JUNE 21	3 MILES Easy	3 MILES Easy	STRENGTH & CORE	3 MILES Hard	REST	4 MILES Long	CROSS TRAINING
2	JUNE 22-JUNE 28	3 MILES Easy	3 MILES Easy	STRENGTH & CORE	3 MILES Hard	REST	5 MILES Long	CROSS TRAINING
3	JUNE 29-JULY 5	3 MILES Easy	3 MILES Easy	STRENGTH & CORE	3 MILES Hard	REST	5 MILES Long	CROSS TRAINING
4	JULY 6-JULY 12	3 MILES Easy	3 MILES Easy	STRENGTH & CORE	3 MILES Hard	REST	6 MILES Long	CROSS TRAINING
5	JULY 13-JULY 19	3 MILES Easy	4 MILES Easy	STRENGTH & CORE	3 MILES Hard	REST	7 MILES Long	CROSS TRAINING
6	JULY 20-JULY 26	3 MILES Easy	4 MILES Easy	STRENGTH & CORE	3 MILES Hard	REST	6 MILES Long	CROSS TRAINING
7	JULY 27-AUG. 2	3 MILES Easy	4 MILES Easy	STRENGTH & CORE	3 MILES Hard	REST	7 MILES Long	CROSS TRAINING
8	AUG. 3-AUG. 9	3 MILES Easy	5 MILES Easy	STRENGTH & CORE	4 MILES Hard	REST	9 MILES Long	CROSS TRAINING
9	AUG. 10-AUG. 16	3 MILES Easy	5 MILES Easy	STRENGTH & CORE	4 MILES Hard	REST	6 MILES Long	CROSS TRAINING
10	AUG. 17-AUG. 23	3 MILES Easy	5 MILES Easy	STRENGTH & CORE	4 MILES Hard	REST	7 MILES Long	CROSS TRAINING
11	AUG. 24-AUG. 30	4 MILES Easy	5 MILES Easy	STRENGTH & CORE	4 MILES Hard	REST	8 MILES Long	CROSS TRAINING
12	AUG. 31- SEPT. 6	4 MILES Easy	5 MILES Easy	STRENGTH & CORE	4 MILES Hard	REST	10 MILES Long	CROSS TRAINING
13	SEPT. 7- SEPT. 13	4 MILES Easy	5 MILES Easy	STRENGTH & CORE	4 MILES Hard	REST	10 MILES Long	REST
14	SEPT. 14- SEPT. 20	4 MILES Easy	5 MILES Easy	STRENGTH & CORE	4 MILES Hard	REST	8 MILES Long	CROSS TRAINING
15	SEPT. 21- SEPT. 27	4 MILES Easy	6 MILES Easy	REST	5 MILES Hard	REST	12 MILES Long	REST
16	SEPT. 28-OCT. 4	4 MILES Easy	5 MILES Easy	STRENGTH & CORE	4 MILES Hard	REST	8 MILES Long	CROSS TRAINING
17	OCT. 5- OCT. 11	4 MILES Easy	4 MILES Easy	STRENGTH & CORE	3 MILES Hard	REST	6 MILES Long	REST
18	OCT. 12- OCT. 18	4 MILES Easy	3 MILES Easy	STRENGTH & CORE	2 MILES Hard	REST	REST	RACE DAY!

## TRAINING FOR SUCCESS

**EASY TRAINING** Running at a relaxed pace, without breathing hard. You should be able to easily carry on a conversation.

**LONG TRAINING** Longer distance at a slower pace, typically one to two minutes per mile slower than your goal race pace.

**HARD TRAINING** Challenge yourself. Tempo, Hills or Intervals.

**TEMPO** Warm-up one mile easy, middle 30–60 seconds per mile faster than goal race pace, cool-down one mile easy.

**HILLS** A hillier course, increase your strength and speed without extra miles.

**INTERVALS** Increase strength and improve form. Start by doing one mile warm up, then run each interval 60–90 seconds per mile faster than your goal race pace, resting half to full time of interval.

**STRENGTH & CORE** Prevent injuries and improve form, leading to improved running efficiency.

**CROSS TRAINING** Aerobic exercises other than running. Improve your fitness while giving your “running” muscles a rest.

**REST** Let your muscles recover and rebuild.

**GOAL RACE PACE** The pace you plan to run on race day.

**RUN 2/WALK 1** Run for two minutes, walk for 1 minute, repeat for a total of 10 minutes

**WU** Warm Up warm up 1–2 minutes slower than 10K pace

**CD** Cool Down cool down 1–2 minutes slower than 10K pace

**5X1 MILE @ 10K PACE WITH A 4MIN REST BETWEEN EACH MILE**

**DETERMINING YOUR RACE PACE** Warm up ½ mile at easy pace, run 1 mile moderate to hard timed, cool down ½ mile easy pace

**Example** (if your timed mile was 9 minutes):

5K (9:00 min mile + 33 seconds) = 9:33 minute mile pace

10K (9:00 min mile x 1.15) = 10:35 minute mile pace

½ marathon (9:00 min mile x 1.2) = 11:20 minute mile pace

Marathon (9:00 min mile x 1.3) = 12:10 minute mile pace

## THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

**PROPER SHOES** Everyone is made differently. Make sure that you have been fitted for running shoes that are right for you. Come to Running Lab for your custom fit process.

**ACCESSORIES AND APPAREL** Well-made and properly fitting apparel is key to improving your experience. The wrong socks and apparel can cause slipping, rubbing and blistering.

**HYDRATION** Have a plan to stay hydrated. Wear a belt, hold something in your hand or drop water on your route.

**NUTRITION** You wouldn't fill your gas tank with trash, why would you fill your body with it? Proper nutrition will help to keep your muscles strong and your energy high, giving you the fuel you need to feel great when you train and race.

**GOOD FORM RUNNING (GFR)** Four steps to run faster, easier and reduce injury. Posture (tight core with glute engagement), proper foot strike (landing mid-foot), Cadence (running 180 steps per minute), Lean (use gravity to your advantage). Sign up for a class at [runninglabstore.com](http://runninglabstore.com).

**INJURY PREVENTION** Don't run through the pain. Listen to your body and talk to an expert. Two days off now is better than two months off because of injury. Check out the calendar of events for free injury screenings at Running Lab.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### MAY

4 // First Day of Base Training

### JUNE

13 // Season Kick Off

15 // 1st Day of Official Training

20 // 1st Saturday Group Run

### AUGUST

24 // 5K Training Starts

### SEPTEMBER

26 // 12/20 Miler

### OCTOBER

15 // Team Dinner and Commissioning

16-17 // Detroit Free Press Marathon Expo/Race Packet Pick-Up

17 // 5K, Kids' Marathon, and Meijer Little Detroit Dash

18 // Full and Half Marathon