

THE MONDAY RECOVERY CHECKLIST

What to do in the first 48 hours after a Sunday match, so you can walk normally on Monday and play again next week. Takes 5 minutes to read. Tick what you did.

RIGHT AFTER THE MATCH

First 30 minutes

- ☐ Walk or jog slowly for 5 minutes instead of stopping dead
- ☐ Drink water straight away, and keep drinking
- ☐ Change out of wet kit and keep warm
- ☐ Notice any pain in one specific spot (see the warning signs below)

SUNDAY EVENING

2 to 6 hours after

- ☐ Eat a proper meal with protein and carbs
- ☐ Sore spot? Cold pack for 15 minutes, always with a cloth in between
- ☐ Legs up on the sofa for a while
- ☐ Go to bed on time: sleep is the cheapest recovery there is

MONDAY

Day 1: the stiff day

- ☐ Keep moving: walk or cycle 15 to 20 minutes
- ☐ Foam roll calves, thighs and glutes gently, 5 to 10 minutes
- ☐ Take the stairs slowly, no heavy gym session
- ☐ Dull, all-over soreness is normal muscle soreness

TUESDAY

Day 2: check-in

- ☐ Soreness should be going down now
- ☐ Light stretching or an easy walk
- ☐ Still pain in one spot? Do not train yet
- ☐ Plan next week: warm-up of 5 minutes before kick-off

STOP AND GET IT CHECKED IF...

These are signs of an injury, not normal soreness. See your GP (huisarts) or a physio.

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| ☐ Sharp pain in one specific spot | ☐ Swelling or a bruise that grows |
| ☐ You cannot put weight on your leg | ☐ The joint feels unstable or "gives way" |
| ☐ The pain gets worse after 48 hours | ☐ You heard or felt a "pop" |

This checklist is general advice from a former player, not medical advice. Every body is different; when in doubt, ask a professional.