



Walk Kansas – 2018 Participant Guide

March 18 – May 12, 2018

Here we go!

Get your walking shoes ready –
it's time for Walk Kansas 2018!

How Walk Kansas Works

- ◆ **Fill out an individual registration form. Sign and return it, along with the \$8.00 participation fee payment, to your team captain.** Order a *Walk Kansas* shirt if you want one (additional cost at \$9.70 per shirt, tax included).
 - ◆ Along with your team members, select a team challenge that you will, collectively, strive for. The Challenges have changed, so be sure to discuss the options with your team members and your Captain.
 - ◆ **Beginning on March 18, record your physical activity minutes. You can also track fruits/vegetables, as well as cups of water.**
- See the *Walk Kansas Activity Guide*, as guidelines have been updated.
- Visit with your team captain and team members to decide if you want to log your numbers online OR use a paper log.** The Extension Office can help set up an online option for you and your team, at your request.
- ◆ **Report weekly to your team captain.**
 - ◆ Read the *Walk Kansas* newsletter. Go to www.butler.ksu.edu each week!
 - ◆ Explore the website www.walkkansas.org and www.choosemyplate.org for physical activity and healthy eating information
 - ◆ Complete a Walk Kansas evaluation after week 8.

What Counts for Walk Kansas minutes?

Check the Walk Kansas Celebrate Healthy Living Physical Activity Guide, page 4, for *What counts toward Walk Kansas minutes?*

Listed are the types of physical activity that you can report for *Walk Kansas* minutes. See attached and/or check this link:

www.butler.ksu.edu

Note: The section titled My Fitness Test Numbers (page 2) is optional. It is a way for you to evaluate your fitness changes during the 8 weeks of Walk Kansas.

Fruits and Vegetables – How Much?



The health benefits of physical activity are greater when you also follow a healthy eating plan. **MyPlate** recommends that you fill half of your plate with fruits and vegetables. Ideally, you should eat 1½ - 2 cups of fruit and 2-3 cups of vegetables each day. If this sounds like a lot, start by adding a fruit or vegetable to what you currently eat, increasing gradually.

For more information, contact:

Barbara Roths, RD/LD, Butler County Extension
316.321.9660 broths@ksu.edu



Daily Log



Captain's Name _____ Phone _____

Captain's E-Mail _____

Directions: Each day, record your minutes of moderate/vigorous activity, (and include minutes strengthening exercises.) Record cups of fruits/vegetables you eat each day.

On Sunday, report your weekly total of exercises minutes and cups of fruits/vegetables to your team captain. What counts towards Walk Kansas minutes? Check the Celebrate Healthy Living Activity Guide for details.

		Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	TOTAL
Week #1	Minutes								
	F/V								
Week #2	Minutes								
	F/V								
Week #3	Minutes								
	F/V								
Week #4	Minutes								
	F/V								
Week #5	Minutes								
	F/V								
Week #6	Minutes								
	F/V								
Week #7	Minutes								
	F/V								
Week #8	Minutes								
	F/V								

CELEBRATE HEALTHY LIVING

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Walk Kansas

Activity Guide

Want to feel better and have more energy?

Maybe you need to blow off some steam from a stressful day or need to get better sleep. Regular exercise can help you achieve this and more. The health benefits from regular exercise and physical activity are hard to ignore, and they are available to everyone, regardless of age, sex, or physical ability. Another fantastic thing about exercise — it's fun!

Walk Kansas is based on *Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans*, which recommend a minimum of 150 minutes of moderate exercise per week OR 75 minutes of vigorous exercise/week, and strengthening exercises at least 2 days per week. Walk Kansas also promotes a warm-up and cool-down time and stretching to improve flexibility.

Make sure it is safe for you to exercise

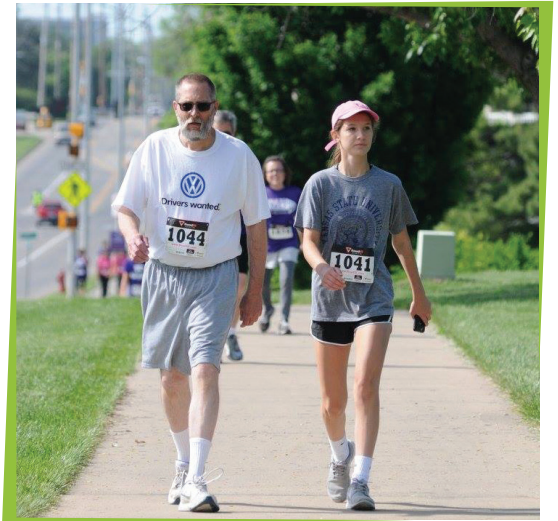
Before you begin Walk Kansas, or any exercise program, it is important to make sure it is safe for you to exercise. This PAR-Q (Physical Activity Readiness Questionnaire) can help you decide if you are ready or if you might need to check with your physician first. Answer yes or no to the following questions:

1. Has your doctor ever said that you have a heart condition and that you should only do physical activity recommended by a doctor?
2. Do you feel pain in your chest when you do physical activity?
3. In the past month, have you had chest pain when you were not doing physical activity?
4. Do you lose your balance because of dizziness or do you ever lose consciousness?
5. Do you have a bone or joint problem that could be made worse by a change in your physical activity?
6. Is your doctor currently prescribing medications for your blood pressure or heart condition?
7. Do you know of any other reason why you should not do physical activity?

If you answered yes to one or more of these questions, are older than age 40, and have been inactive or are concerned about your health, check with your physician before taking a fitness test or participating in Walk Kansas.

Measure your fitness

Almost everyone that increases their physical activity will benefit by improved fitness. You may notice that you don't get out of breath as easily when you climb the stairs or that picking something up from the floor is easier. While a pre/post fitness test is not required, you may want to know just how much you improve over the 8 weeks of Walk Kansas. These tests are relatively easy to do. You can do the walking test by yourself and the flexibility tests will require another person to do some measuring.



Rockport Fitness Walking Test

This is one of the best ways to determine your cardiorespiratory fitness, which is the ability of the heart and lungs to supply fuel and oxygen during sustained physical activity. The test determines your fitness level by estimating your VO2Max, which is your maximum possible oxygen consumption.

To do this 1-mile walking test, you will need: a scale to determine your weight, a stopwatch or cell phone to time the test, a 1-mile measured course, and a way to measure your heart rate (take your pulse).

First, find a 1-mile course. For most high-school tracks, this is 4 laps around the innermost lane. You can also measure out 1 mile on a road or street. Have your phone or stopwatch ready and follow these instructions.

1. Warm up at a gentle pace for at least 5 minutes.
2. Walk 1 mile as fast as you can and time how long it takes.
3. Record your time to walk 1 mile.
4. Take your heart rate immediately at the end of your 1-mile walk. You can use a heart rate monitor or app, or take your pulse for 15 seconds and multiply this number by 4.
5. Enter this data into the calculator linked below. This will determine your VO2Max and compare it to standards for your gender and age group. <http://knightsofknee.com/calculators/FitnessTestCalc.htm>

If you do not have access to the Internet, contact your local K-State Research and Extension office for calculation instructions.

Please know that this is not a test you can cram for because fitness doesn't improve overnight. Don't be discouraged if your score is low. The most important thing is that you improve your score over time. We would expect your score to improve after the 8 weeks of Walk Kansas, provided you walk or exercise regularly and that you increase the length and intensity of your walking over time.

My Fitness Test Numbers

Before Walk Kansas:

Walking test

Time for 1-mile walk _____

Heart rate immediately after walk _____

Rockport results:

My Fitness Level _____

My Fitness Rating _____

Flexibility Tests

Back Scratch: Right _____ Left _____

Hamstring: Right _____ Left _____

After Walk Kansas:

Walking test

Time for 1-mile walk _____

Heart rate immediately after walk _____

Rockport results:

My Fitness Level _____

My Fitness Rating _____

Flexibility Tests

Back Scratch: Right _____ Left _____

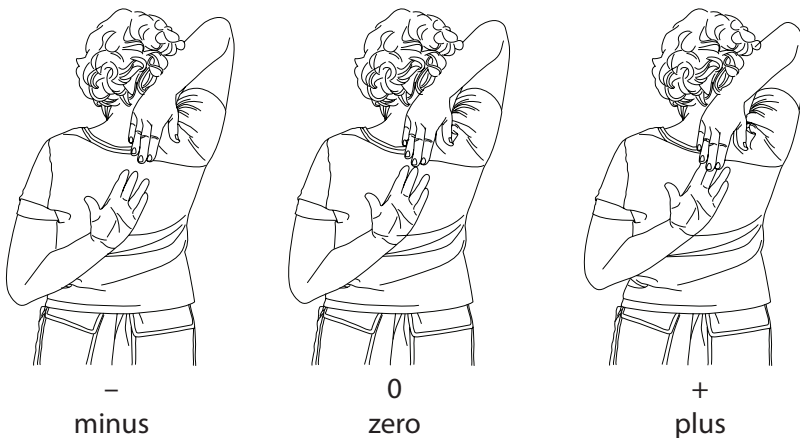
Hamstring: Right _____ Left _____

Helpful Information

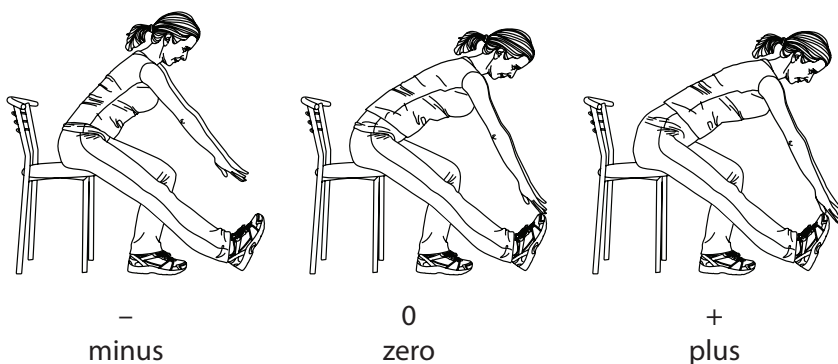
Flexibility Tests

Flexibility is somewhat hard to measure. These two tests are some of the best ways to determine if your flexibility improves over time. You will need a partner to complete these and have a ruler handy.

Back Scratch Test to determine upper body flexibility. Stand and place your right hand over your right shoulder, palm down and fingers extended. Place your other arm around the back of your waist with palm up, reaching as far as possible and trying to touch or overlap extended middle fingers of both hands. Have your partner measure to the closest quarter inch. Use the diagram below as a guide and record your results. Repeat on the other side.



Chair Sit-and-Reach Test to determine lower body (hamstring) flexibility. Sit on the edge of a chair, one leg bent and slightly off to one side, foot flat on the floor. Extend your other leg as straight as possible, heel placed on the floor and foot flexed to 90 degrees. With arms outstretched, hands overlapping and middle fingers even, slowly bend forward and reach as far as possible toward or past the toes. Use the diagram below as a guide and record your results. Repeat on the other side.



Walk Kansas:

www.walkkansas.org

Physical Activity

Guidelines for Americans: <https://health.gov/paguidelines/guidelines/>

Strength Training

http://workshop.agrability.org/2011/Downloads/Vincent_07.pdf

<http://www.walkkansas.org/activity/strength.html>

“Don’t just sit there!”

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wpst/special/health/sitting/Sitting.pdf>

Flexibility and Stretching

<https://www.uaex.edu/publications/PDF/FSFCS34.pdf>

Source for flexibility tests: Stay Strong Stay Healthy Program and University of Missouri Extension

<http://www.k-state.edu/staystrong/>

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Ready for Walk Kansas!

Physicians say that if walking were a pill, it would be the most widely prescribed medication. The reason we promote walking is that almost anyone can do it and it is good for your heart. Other types of exercise are beneficial as well, so you can be assured that other types of activity also count toward Walk Kansas minutes!

Physical activity versus exercise — there is a difference. Physical activity is anything that gets a person moving, such as walking to the mailbox. Exercise is moving at a pace that increases your heart rate, such as walking around the block. Walk Kansas promotes both physical activity and exercise. It is also important to move throughout your day, and especially important that you move — at least stand — for several minutes every waking hour.

What counts toward Walk Kansas minutes?

The Walk Kansas program is based on the Physical Activity Guidelines, which promote moderate and vigorous intensity activities. Here are the types of activity you can report as Walk Kansas minutes. (Things have changed a bit since 2017, so please read!)

- Moderate exercise/activity — at a level where you can carry on a conversation, but not sing. Activity must be done for at least 10 consecutive minutes. Report actual minutes of activity. Activities could include: walking briskly, water exercise, bicycling slower than 10 miles/hour, tennis (doubles), ballroom dancing, general gardening.
- Vigorous exercise/activity — at a level where you can talk but not have a conversation. Activity must be done for at least 10 consecutive minutes. You can double the actual minutes you perform vigorous activity and report that number. Vigorous activities could include: racewalking, jogging or running, swimming laps, tennis (singles), aerobic dancing, bicycling 10 miles/hour or faster, jumping rope, heavy gardening, hiking uphill or with a heavy backpack.
- Combination of moderate and vigorous — where you add short bursts of vigorous activity or intervals. Example: Add several 30-second bursts of running or fast walking to your moderate walking pace. Report actual minutes of activity.
- Strengthening exercises — report actual minutes.

If you wear an activity tracker (wrist tracker or pedometer), you can start counting steps after you reach 6,000 steps in a day. Report 15 minutes of activity for every 2,000 steps you take above 6,000.*

**Research tells us that most people will not get more than 6,000 steps in their average day. To be consistent with Walk Kansas goals, we ask you to count only the steps that are above this amount.*

For more explanation about moderate/vigorous activities and using the “talk” test watch [this video](#).

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Individual Registration Form – 2018

Please complete and return to your local K-State Research and Extension office.

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ Zip Code _____ County/District _____

Email _____ Phone _____ Gender Male Female

Team Captain _____ Team Name _____

If this is a work-site team, please specify company/organization _____

Which age range are you in? (Check one)

- Under 5 5 - 12 13 - 17 18 - 24 25 - 34
 35 - 44 45 - 54 55 - 64 65 - 74 75 and over

Which of the following best describes you? (Check one)

- American Indian/Native American Asian Black/African American
 Bi-racial Hispanic or Latino Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander
 White Other

I wish to participate in the Walk Kansas physical activity program for the purpose of physical fitness. I understand that I should have medical approval from my health care professional if I:

- » have chronic health problems such as heart disease or diabetes.
- » have been told by my doctor that I have high blood pressure.
- » have pains in my heart and/or chest area.
- » have any physical conditions or problems that might require special attention in an exercise program.
- » feel dizzy or have spells of severe dizziness.
- » have a bone or joint condition, such as arthritis, that might be made worse by an exercise I am not accustomed to, or a vigorous exercise program.
- » am a male over age 45 or a female over age 55 AND not accustomed to vigorous exercise.

I agree to accept full responsibility for any injuries I may sustain while participating in this program.

Participant Signature _____ **Date** _____

Parent/Guardian Signature (If under 18) _____ **Date** _____

PUBLICITY RELEASE

- I authorize** K-State Research and Extension to record and photograph my image and/or voice for use in research, educational and promotional programs. I also recognize that these audio, video and image recordings are the property of K-State Research and Extension.
- No, I do not authorize** use of my individual image or voice.