DON JOSEPH GOEWEY

STRESS

FOUR STEPS TO REWIRE YOUR BRAIN



THE END OF STRESS

Stress Assessment Tool			
	I get less and less pleasure from activities that I used to enjoy.		I experience fatigue most days and at times become exhausted
	I have trouble making decisions.		I'm having difficulty getting to sleep because I can't quiet down, or I'm sleeping more than usual and don't want to get out of bed.
	My memory and concentration are not as good as they used to be.		I feel less confident about my ability to handle my personal problems.
	Simple things feel burdensome or difficult to accomplish.		At times I feel overwhelmed and unable to control the important things in my life
	I have a shorter fuse these days. I'm more impatient, more on edge, and more easily frustrated or annoyed.		I lose track of little things, such as where I put my keys.
	I experience upsetting emotions such as fear, paranoia, dejection, worry, or pessimism to a greater degree or for prolonged periods.		I worry over things I can't control.
	I criticize my significant other more, tend to ruminate on the flaws in our relationship, bicker more, and blame my partner for our problems.		At times, my agitation or frustration can reach the point that I bang on my desk with my fist, throw things, shout, or act out in some other way.
	I've become less social. I find myself wishing that people, including friends and family, would stop bothering me.		My interest in sex has decreased.
	I eat more to cope with my emotional state, or I have lost my appetite.		I get sick more often than I think I should, catching colds and flu. I have developed or worry about developing serious health risks.
	My use of alcohol, tobacco, or other substances has increased in part to relieve stress.		I have tension headaches, gastrointestinal problems, muscle tension in the back, neck, or jaw, or all of the above.

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Attributes of a Dynamically Peaceful Attitude П Calm Resilient A clear sense of personal power and the integrity to assert your Faith in the face of adversity power without overpowering others Trust in the process Unafraid Unhurried Joy in the challenge Free of worry **Empathic** П Self-confident A willingness to forgive A disinterest in judging or Creative condemning A felt connection with one's own Open-minded, receptive, and heart, with others, and with life accepting itself An enduring sense of the whole П A curiosity that is fully present that transcends the fragments Energetic A sense of the sacred

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My To-Be List For My To-Do List

- 1. List in the right column an external goal you want to achieve in business, family, and health.
- 2. In the middle column, define qualities you want to succeed at being as you work to achieve these external goals. Use the list of qualities from *A Dynamically Peaceful Attitude*.

Area of Pursuit	The inner qualities I want to succeed at being	as I work to achieve this external goal
Business		
Family		
Health		

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Left Brain / Right Brain Source: Ehrenwald (1984) LEFT BRAIN RIGHT BRAIN **ATTRIBUTES** Abstract, linear, analytic Concrete, holistic THINKING Rational, logical Intuitive, artistic COGNITIVE STYLE Rich vocabulary, good No grammar or syntax, poor grammar, prosody, and vocabulary, metaphorical, LANGUAGE syntax, prose poetry Introspection, will, initiative, Low sense of self, low sense of self, focused on the initiative, focused on the EXECUTIVE CAPACITY forest trees Reading, writing, arithmetic, Music, rich dream imagery, good face and gestalt sensory-motor skills, inhibits SPECIALIZED FUNCTIONS psychic experience and recognition, open to psychic information experiences and information Sequentially ordered, Here and now, infinite TIME SEQUENCE measured Superior, also for shapes, Relatively poor SPATIAL ORIENTATION wire figures Secondary process, ego Primary process, dream **PSYCHOANALYTIC** functions, consciousness work, free association

My Commitment			
Fill out the form below and begin practicing all three items.			
I commit to waking up each morning	☐ 5 minutes early ☐ 10 minutes early ☐ 15 minutes early ☐ 20 minutes early		to do the <i>Start the Day in Quiet</i> exercise and launch the day on a positive, peaceful note.
I commit to counting my blessings once a	☐ Sun ☐ Mon	☐ Thurs	Beginning this date:
week, every week, on this day:	☐ Tues☐ Wed	☐ Sat	Month/Day
Each day I will take a break at:	in the	AM morning	PM in the afternoon

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Try the Remote Associates Test

You are given three different words (triad). The task is to find a single word that can form a compound word or phrase that works with all three words in the triad. For example, consider the triad age, mile and sand. The solution is "stone, as in stone age, milestone, sandstone." Answer at the bottom of the page.

Triad	Solution
1. Notch, flight, spin	
2. Speak, money, street	
3. Sandwich, golf, foot	
4. Cotton, bathtub, tonic	
5. Sore, shoulder, sweat	
6. Ink, herring, neck	
7. Salt, Deep, Foam	
8. Square, Cardboard, Open	
9. Water, Tobacco, Stove	
10. Ache, Hunter, Cabbage	
11. Widow, Bite, Monkey	

Answers:: 1: Top. 2: Easy. 3: Club. 4: Cin. 5: Cold. 6: Red 7: Sea 8: Box 9: Pipe 10: Head 11: Spider

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Fragmentation Quiz
Check behaviors that are true about you.
I often think what I do is not quite good enough.
I resist feeling "bad" emotions in an effort to be "good," but find that "bad" emotions occasionally take hold of me.
I view emotionality as a sign of weakness and a lack of control.
I'm afraid to question authority when I see a better way.
At work, it's necessary to act confident even when I'm not.
I project an image of a happy or secure person without really feeling it.
I have a tendency to withdraw when challenged.
I often put on a face to hide what I feel.
I care more about what others think of me than I'd like to admit.
I am generally restrained when it comes to emotional expression, but often have stronger feelings than I express.
I feel the need to defend myself.
I have a hard time feeling safe in an intimate relationship.
I sometimes shudder at something I've said.
At times, I cringe when I remember something I regret from the past.
I feel rejected when people disagree with me.
I tend to avoid eye contact with other people.
I find it difficult to receive gifts from others.
I feel like I am not as successful as I should be at this point in my life.
I try to win people's approval.

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The Strengths-Finding Tool ~ 1 Check any strength that you possess, whether you have developed it or not **Analytical Strengths General Strengths** Are you: Are you: Organized Social Artistic Systematic Intellectual Methodical Mechanical Logical Athletic Detail oriented Spiritual Prudent Deductive/insightful An outdoors person

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The Strengths-Finding Tool ~ 2

Check any strength that you possess, whether you have developed it or not.		
Innovative Strengths	Social Strengths	
Are you:	Are you:	
☐ Creative	☐ Open-minded	
☐ Original	☐ Supportive	
☐ Imaginative	☐ Astute	
☐ Inventive	☐ Hospitable	
☐ Daring	☐ Kindhearted	
☐ Intuitive	☐ Gregarious	
☐ Curious	☐ Empathetic	
☐ Insightful	☐ Inclusive	
☐ Sensitive	☐ Tolerant	
□ Visionary	☐ A good listener	

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The Strengths-Finding Tool ~ 3 Check any strength that you possess, whether you have developed it or not. **Entrepreneurial Strengths Work Strengths** Are you: Are you: Cooperative An avid learner Decisive Assertive **Efficient Pragmatic** Persuasive Focused Enthusiastic Fair Energetic Motivated

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The Strengths-Finding Tool ~ 4 Check any strength that you possess, whether you have developed it or not. **Spiritual Strengths Emotional Strengths** Are you: Are you: Loving Self-aware Peaceful **Balanced** Present Motivated Authentic Caring Forgiving Enthusiastic Appreciative Happy Humorous Accepting/nonjudgmental

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The Attributes Of A Whole Person Check three qualities listed below that you want to strengthen Creative, curious, and interested ☐ Spontaneous in learning Open to your own experience ☐ A good listener of life ⊿ Able to experience all of your. ☐ Unconditionally loving feelings ☐ Constructive in your response ☐ Undefended and self-accepting ☐ Collaborative and democratic ☐ The courage to be imperfect ☐ Open to other people's ideas and ☐ Non-judgmental with others points of view but not governed by them Living more completely in the ☐ Empathic and compassionate moment ☐ A clear sense of purpose ☐ Able to forgive ☐ Trusting your own judgment in ☐ Able to give and receive finding your best available appreciation and admiration answer to any situation ☐ The capacity to retreat into the quiet of your own being

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Your Whole Brain

Check the brain function you want to develop
Executive functions , increasing your proficiency at planning, strategizing, decision making, abstract thinking, cognitive flexibility, error detection, and goal-directed action.
Creative processes , where the dots start connecting themselves, turning creative insight into tangible innovation.
Emotional regulation , where you feel vibrant and inspired, but not so emotionally charged that you become manic, chaotic, or rigid.
The condition of learning facilitated by attention, memory, and curiosity working in concert.
The passion and motivation to persist in the pursuit of a significant goal.
The capacity to extinguish fear and quiet fight/flight/freeze reactions to attain the fearless self-confidence that adversity does not unsettle.
The response flexibility that neutralizes rash impulses, signaling you to pause and reflect before acting in an aggressive or defensive manner.
The altruism that enables you to move beyond limited self-interest and think and act for the larger good.
The attuned communication that achieves interpersonal resonance.
The empathy that enables you to see, feel, and understand a situation from someone else's point of view.
The parental love that raises healthy children.
The romantic love and sexual passion that sustain intimacy.
The insight that produces the autobiographical memories to relate the past to the present, so you can guide the future.
The intuition to discern the solution to a problem that eludes the intellect.
The holism that achieves the congruency between thought, belief, intention, and action to sustain personal integrity.

Your To-Be List		
	Choose qualities you intend to master	
	To be at peace	
	To be present here and now	
	To listen better	
	To judge less	
	To forgive more	
	To be empathic	
	To be grateful	
	To take time to stop and stand still	
	To allow creative insight	
	To let go of fear	
	To have faith in the face of adversity	
	To trust the process as it unfolds	
	To focus on the whole of life instead of the fragments	
	To rest in the quiet of your own being	
	To be happy	

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The End of Stress Toolbox

Check off tools you'll practice in mastering a positive, peaceful way of being. For a list of Tools go to theendofstressbook.com/tools
Accentuate the Attributes of a Dynamically Peaceful Attitude.
Monitor your anxious, stressful thoughts and feelings with the Thought Awareness Tool.
Use the What Am I Afraid Of? Tool to dispel big fears.
Start each day in quiet.
Once a day, meditate for five minutes or more.
Mark the Moments of positive expansion.
Use the Clear Button Tool to bust a burgeoning stress reaction.
Integrate your To-Be List with your to-do list, making peace your primary goal.
Once every week count your blessings.
At least twice a day, take a time-out from the world and its problems, and go on a break. If you can, take a walk in a green setting.
Use the Three Sane Choices Tool to get clear about what you do and don't control.
Ease the tension and fatigue in your body with the Feel It to Heal It Tool.
Use the Strengths-Finding Tool to continuously identify and acknowledge your strengths.
Practice accentuating the Attributes of a Whole Person.
Listen better, judge less, forgive more, and love unconditionally.

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Healing Type-A Choose one or more of the items below to perform each day, until you've done them all. Then repeat the process. ☐ Choose the longest line at a store and ☐ Use a measuring stick other than stand in it, letting your mind go and business to measure your choosing to be at peace, using the accomplishments; for example, your Thirty-Second-Time- Out for Peace talents, creative abilities, human qualities, or close relationships. process. ☐ Look out the window for thirty seconds Devote today to seeing your strengths and let your mind go. Watch the wind and positive qualities. blow or the sun shine or the rain fall. ☐ Practice forgiving trivial errors. ☐ Do one special thing for yourself today. ☐ Quietly do good deeds and acts of ☐ Drive home in the slow lane. kindness. ☐ Practice receiving compliments ☐ Smile more today. graciously. ☐ Listen to calming music instead of the Accept that life is unfinished business. news on the drive home. ☐ Take five minutes today to recall times ☐ Practice listening without interrupting. when you were happy. ☐ Commit to stop judging yourself for your ☐ Buy a small gift for a friend or family member. lack of perfection. ☐ Consider the notion that perfection is in ☐ Call a good friend you have not talked to in a while. the imperfections. ☐ When you feel conflict today, tell Look for the best in someone you know. yourself, "I am not going to let this person or situation control how I feel." Today, feel more and think less. Become skillful at knowing how you feel by making I feel statements.