

Workout plan

Sarah Bennett

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Goal	Muscle growth (hypertrophy)
Level	Intermediate
Frequency	3× per week
Block length (mesocycle)	4 weeks

This block keeps the SAME exercises on the same training day for all 4 weeks. That is deliberate: a heavier weight only means something when the exercise stayed the same (Williams et al. 2017). The load builds week after week (progressive overload, ACSM/NSCA) and is shown as "+X% vs. week 1". In week 1 write down a workable starting weight; only add load once the client clears the target reps by 1-2. Variation comes with the NEXT block, which rotates to different exercises (Kassiano et al. 2022). Always skip or adapt an exercise if it hurts, and consult a physician or physiotherapist if in doubt.

Day 1 — Full body A

Same exercises for all 4 weeks of this block. Write the load used in that week's box; the previous week sits right next to it. Only add weight once the client clears the target reps by 1-2 (ACSM).

Warm-up		Cool-down	
Ankle and wrist circles	1 × 50s	Quadriceps stretch (standing, with support)	1 × 30s
Standing chest opener (arms opening backwards)	1 × 50s	Lower back stretch (cat-cow, slow)	1 × 30s
Neck rolls (calm, half circle)	1 × 50s	Neck stretch (gentle lateral flexion)	1 × 30s
Main block			
EXERCISE	SETS × REPS	REST	Week 4 target +10%
Side-lying hip abduction (leg raise) Lie on your side, bottom leg bent, top leg straight. Lift the top leg sideways. <i>Adaptation: Keep the pelvis perpendicular to the floor and limit the height.</i>	3 × 10	75s	
Straight-leg raise lying (single leg) Lie on your back, one knee bent, the other leg straight. Tighten the thigh and lift the straight leg. <i>Adaptation: Keep the other leg bent with the foot flat on the floor.</i>	3 × 10	75s	
Leg press (machine) Feet shoulder-width on the plate, lower to a 90° knee angle, press back through the heels.	3 × 10	75s	
Assisted pull-up (counterweight machine) Knees or feet on the pad, pick a counterweight that lets you do 8-10 clean reps.	3 × 10	75s	
Single-arm dumbbell floor press Like the floor press but with one dumbbell. An anti-rotation challenge for the core.	3 × 10	75s	
Core			
EXERCISE	SETS × REPS	REST	Week 4 target +10%
TRX plank with knee tuck (crunch) Feet in the TRX loops in a push-up position. Pull both knees towards the chest.	2 × 8	30s	
Side plank on the feet Same as the knee version but extended on the feet — harder because of the longer lever.	2 × 30s	30s	
Dead bug Lie on your back, arms and legs up, lower opposite arm and leg alternately.	2 × 8	30s	