

# **ROCKBALLS**

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# ROCK BALLS

### 01 | FOOT - STANDING

Roll from base of toes to heel. Maintain normal breathing.



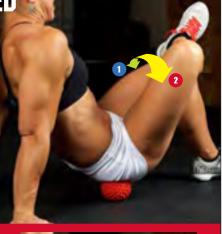
Applying too much pressure will cause you to stop rolling and to hold your breath.



Use your free foot to offload pressure and maintain balance as needed.

### 02 | GLUTE - SEATED

- Seated with involved knee bent and foot on the ground. Position RockBall in the "back pocket."
- 2 Apply direct, constant pressure. To increase intensity, allow involved knee to slowly drop toward the floor. Repeat 5-10 times.





If the pressure is too great, offload with your hands.



Dont forfget to use your crossed leg for additional offloading if the pressure is too intense.

### 03 | SHOULDER - LYING ON BACK

1 Put RockBall on back of shoulder. Apply direct pressure for 30-60 seconds. Move around to find tender points.





To increase intensity: Place arm at a 90 degree angle.



Move arm from 90 degrees to 180 degrees and back.

### 04 | PECTORAL (PEC) - STANDING

Place RockBall between pec and shoulder.

Use both hands over RockBall and apply direct pressure. Then roll RockBall toward shoulder and return to starting position for 30-60 seconds.



You may have to roll the RockBall around in order to find the most optimal spot.



If the pressure is too great from the textured RockBall, use the smooth alternative provided.

### **05 | HIP FLEXOR - LYING FACE DOWN**

- Place RockBall a couple of inches to the outside of your belly button.
- Flex hip and knee while keeping downward pressure on the ball. Now move your hips and knee from side to side, rocking gently.





Use your elbows and knees to offload the pressure if it is too great.



If facedown is not an option due to too much pressure, feel free to stand and apply pressure using your hands.

#### MOVEMENT IS LIFE ... LIFE IS MOVEMENT.

At RockTape, we manufacture and distribute products that help people move better. When people move better, they tend to move more.

#### MORE HUMAN MOVEMENT IS OUR GOAL.

hether tending to our crops or hunting for our next meal, we have lived most of our time as humans on our feet. Unfortunately, as a society we are tending to move less and less, and as a result

we are getting sicker and sicker. With the advent of the desk job, smart phone, TV, and computer, we're sitting down more than ever before. It is estimated that Americans sit 9.3 hours a day, which is even more time than we spend sleeping (7.7 hours). Our bodies weren't built for that, and it is starting to take its toll. Sitting 6 or more hours per day makes you up to 40% likelier to die within 15 years than someone who sits less than three. Even if you exercise for 1 hour a day, your risk is still higher if you sit for long periods in the day.

In addition to reducing the amount of time sitting, we believe people need to exercise more. It has been well documented that exercise training promotes good body composition<sup>3,4</sup> and improves the cardiovascular<sup>3,5</sup> and metabolic systems.<sup>3,4,6,7,8</sup> Many of these beneficial effects occur after an acute bout of exercise or after a very short-term training period. For example, Arciero<sup>9</sup> demonstrated body weight and fat mass decrease and insulin action significantly increases with as little as 10 days of exercise training in obese men and women.<sup>10</sup> In addition, a single acute bout of endurance exercise significantly increases insulin sensitivity in healthy young men and women.<sup>11</sup>

#### **MOVE OR DIE**

How important is movement? If you can't move, you will die. Don't believe it?

In a study published in the European Journal of Cardiology and Discover magazine, a Brazilian researcher had more than 2,000 patients ages 51 to 80, take the "Sitting-Rising" test. People who scored fewer than eight points on the test, he found, were twice as likely to die within the next six years compared with those who scored higher; those who scored three or fewer points were more than five times as likely to die within the same period compared with those who scored more than eight points.

#### **TRY IT**

- 1. Stand in comfortable clothes in your bare feet, with clear space around you.
- 2. Without leaning on anything, lower yourself to a sitting position on the floor.
- 3. Now stand back up, trying not to use your hands, knees, forearms or sides of your legs.









#### **SCORING**

The two basic movements in the sitting-rising test — lowering to the floor and standing back up — are each scored on a 1-to-5 scale, with one point subtracted each time a hand or knee is used for support and 0.5 points subtracted for loss of balance; this yields a single 10-point scale. A perfect score is 10.

## **ROCKTAPE® MOVEMENT PYRAMID**

#### CORRECTIVE EXERCISE

Used to normalize human movement before increasing training or exercise demands.

#### ROCKTAPE

Unique kinesiology/sports tape that provides support while allowing full range of motion. It's used to decrease pain, decompress tissue, and provide stimulus that improves body awareness.

#### **IASTM**

Instrument-Assisted Soft Tissue Massage – A manual therapy technique designed to provide direct, mechanical manipulation of irregular tissue.

#### **ROLLING/BALLS/BANDS**

A collection of tools used by athletes for manipulation of the myofascial system to normalize muscle tone.

#### **ASSESSMENT**

The act of making a judgment about the quality of human movement.

#### **SCREENING**

The act of examining people to decide if they are suitable for a particular movement or exercise.

Unfortunately, as we exercise we also tend to get injuries to the muscles, joints, and tendons. Normally when we see our health care provider while injured, the recommendation includes rest. **Too much rest**, in our opinion. The abrupt cessation of physical training abolishes any previous muscle strength gains in both older<sup>7,12,13</sup> and younger individuals. <sup>7,14</sup> In addition, Arciero³ and Vukovich¹⁵ have previously shown that 6–10 days of inactivity are associated with reduced glucose tolerance, insulin action, and GLUT-4 transporter levels. Others have reported reductions in total aerobic capacity, <sup>16,17</sup> deltoid muscle respiratory capacity and muscle glycogen content compared with levels during peak season training. <sup>6</sup> Still others have reported significant increases in body weight (4.8 kg) and body fat (BF; 4.3 kg) after two months of detraining. <sup>18</sup>

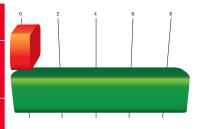
In order to avoid this detraining effect due to forced rest from injuries, RockTape suggests doing activities that help prevent and overcome injuries to the soft tissue. One of those activities is **rolling**. Rolling is a form of self-myofascial release that is commonly used by fitness and medical professionals. A myofascial release technique is intended to address localized tightness in the fascia. This localized tightness may be impairing proper movement by causing pain or limiting range of motion, or both.

#### **CHANGE IN RANGE OF MOTION**

NOT ROLLING (TOP)

**ROLLING (BOTTOM)** 

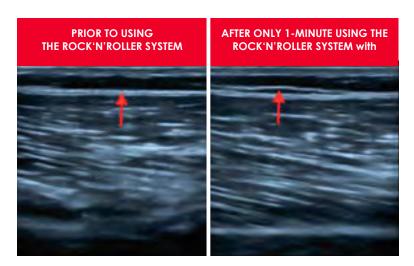
8° increase after 2 minutes of rolling



#### FASICIA VISUALIZED WITH ULTRASOUND

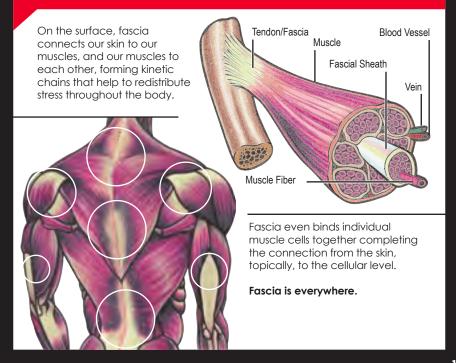
Fascial release is one of the primary benefits of foam rolling. With our RockNRoller, you can be confident in effective release of restricted tissues.

The ultrasound images below clearly show fascial release after just 1-minute of rolling with our RockNRoller. Our patented Fascial Fingers™ not only work, they work better than traditional foam rollers.



#### **WHAT IS FASCIA?**

Fascia is a layer of connective tissue that surrounds muscles, vessels, nerves and organs, binding them together both mechanically and neurologically.



#### **HOW DOES BALL ROLLING WORK?**

There are numerous theories about why ball rolling has been shown to increase range of motion and decrease pain. 25,26,27 Some of these theories are older and based on changing the dynamics of the tissue. At RockTape, we believe in neurophysiological models, which are now becoming more widely accepted than the older, mechanical models. Ball rolling is thought to send information to the brain which enhances muscle preparedness (activation). It can also help muscles relax.

In this way, myofascial release sends signals to the brain through nerves, which then signals to the muscle to turn on or relax, almost like a switch. This model assumes that muscle tissue is responsible for the tightness and that it is muscle tissue that is being changed by treatment. This is also why using RockTape kinesiology tape with ball rolling is incredibly effective; they both activate the neuromuscular system.

Researchers have suggested that self-myofascial release techniques may improve issues such as: pain<sup>2</sup> and poor circulation<sup>1</sup> that may be caused by inflamed fascia.



#### **HOW THE ROCKBALL SYSTEM WORKS**

The RockTape RockBall is designed to address movement problems.

#### THERE ARE 3 SIMPLE STEPS TO THE SYSTEM:

#### Step 1: Identify the problem area or target tissue

Choose an area of the body and roll until you find an area of tightness or pain. We call this the **target tissue**.

#### Step 2: Roll over the target tissue

Once the **target tissue** is identified, roll over that area for **15 seconds quickly** (**pre-activity**) or **30 seconds slowly** (**post-activity**). In addition to rolling over the target area of pain or tightness, we recommend going to the area of the body above the next joint and below the next joint (i.e., pain in knee, go to thigh and shin). We call this **upstream** and **downstream rolling**.

#### Step 3: Maintain good posture and breathe

While rolling, **breathe in through your nose** (inhalation) for four seconds and **breathe out through your nose** (exhalation) for six seconds. Exhaling longer than inhaling allows your body to relax and promotes better oxygenation of the air you breathe.

#### **HELPFUL HINTS**

The length of time spent rolling an area should be about 1-2 minutes. The "More is Better" paradigm doesn't work here. So in general, keep it short and sweet!

#### **GETTING STARTED**

**Prior to Activity** – ball rolling can serve as an important component of the warm-up process by preparing the tissue and nervous system for the upcoming demand.

#### Benefits of using a RockBall prior to activity include:

- 1. Increased blood flow
- Optimized length-tension relationship of a muscle/tissue
- 3. Improved movement efficiency
- 4. Psychological ramp up for activity

**Post Activity** – Ball rolling can serve as a **cool down method** both physically and psychologically. Total body flushing can be accomplished, which **promotes circulation and flushes metabolic wastes**. Take this process slow and systematic, **breathe deep**, **and drink water**.

#### Benefits of ball rolling post activity include:

- 1. Flush tissue
- 2. Create elasticity of tissue
- 3. Begin recovery process

- 4. Slow heart rate
- 5. Psychological relaxation

#### **BREATHING AND PROPER ALIGNMENT**

Breathing is an important aspect of everyday life. It is important to emphasize here that when experiencing discomfort from ball rolling, the tendency is to hold one's breath. If you are holding your breath, the pressure is too great. Decrease the pressure from the RockBall immediately. We recommend keeping your body upright as much as possible to allow for good oxygen intake. Take a deep breath through the nose for four seconds and exhale through the nose for six seconds.

#### AM I RIGHT FOR BALL ROLLING?

The system can be used by almost anyone, anywhere, and at anytime. **Be aware that some people should not use RockBall.** Seek guidance from your health care provider prior to using any soft tissue technique, especially if you have any of the following:

- Osteoporosis
- Taking Anticoagulant therapy
- Diabetes
  - High blood pressure
  - Varicose veins

- Pregnancy
  - Uncertainty of a condition

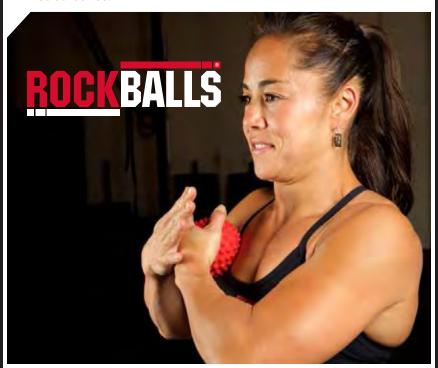
#### DIFFERENTIATING PAIN FROM DISCOMFORT

Pain is defined as an unpleasant feeling often caused by intense or damaging stimuli interpreted by the brain. One can expect mild to moderate discomfort when using the RockBall, but experiencing actual pain could indicate something is wrong. If you feel shooting or piercing pain, stop rolling immediately and adjust the placement of the RockBall to decrease pressure on the muscle or tissue. If after adjusting the RockBall the pain is not relieved, discontinue use of the RockBall and seek the advice of a licensed healthcare professional for further evaluation and advice.

Ball rolling can play an important part in your overall **preparation and recovery from activity**. Time invested in injury prevention and recovery today is time well-spent avoiding injury that may take weeks to recover from, and that may force extended rest...and we know the detrimental, physiological effects of too much rest.

#### **PLEASE NOTE**

No information of any kind in this brochure is meant to act as or replace medical advice.







See instructional videos at rocktape.com/videos

#### can be used to treat

- Achilles tendonitis
- Plantar fasciitis
- ACL/MCL/jumpers knee
- Rotator cuff/shoulder
- Groin and hamstring pulls

- Lower back problems
- Shin splints
- Tennis and golf elbow
- Posture issues

RockTape can also be used to improve performance when you compete or engage in your sport. RockTape helps athletes maintain proper form and increases blood flow to decrease fatigue and build endurance.

JUST SOME OF OUR COLORS AND DESIGNS





## ROCKNROLLER

**is designed to** address movement problems. Self-myofascial release techniques may improve issues such as pain and poor circulation that may be caused by inflamed fascia. Recommended areas for use are:

- Upper/Lower Back
- Shoulders
- Quads

- Calves/Peroneals
- Glutes
- IT Band



# **ROCKBAND**

**is ideal for** corrective movements. RockBand can not only be used to stretch before and after workouts, but can be used in Frontal, Sagittal, and Transverse planes to create a base for flexibility, stability, and strength.

- Corrective Movements
- Mobility
- Jumping/Plyometrics

- General Conditioning
- Pre-workout/Post-workout





# ROCKSAUCE

RockSauce is the first and only warm topical pain cream designed for use with RockTape. When applied directly to the surface of RockTape, RockSauce soaks into and through RockTape to provde cooling and warmth sensations for up to an hour. When used by itself, RockSauce provides both cooling and warmth making it the perfect all-in-one treatment.









Manifesto Black Pink Camo

# KNEECAPS

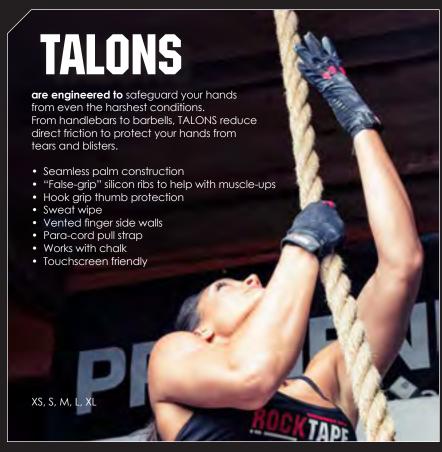
keep your knees stabilized, and that is essential when it comes to lifting. KneeCaps neoprene sleeves are specifically designed to provide compression, warmth and lateral stability when performing functional movements such as dead lifts, pistols, and squats.

Unlike other supports, KneeCaps are "extra tall" and designed to compress the VMO\* at its insertion point above the patella\* to help ensure proper stability and tracking. KneeCaps also provide compression and warmth to promote blood flow.

Choose between 5mm and 7mm thickness. 7mm offers extra compression and stiffness for even more support.

XS, S, M, L, XL

The Vastus Medialis muscle is one of four quadricep muscles, and is located on the inner part of the front of the thigh. The lowest part, the Vastus Medialus, called the Vastus Medialus Oblique (VMO) helps stabilize the patella (knee cap) and allows it to track properly.



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# FASCIAL MOVEMENT TAPING

A hands-on course integrating the best treatments with kinesiology taping to deliver the best possible patient outcomes.



# HELP YOUR PATIENTS

Master functional taping and understand its role in rehabilitation, neuropathic pain and posture improvement

 Corrective exercise strategies for movement mobility and stability dysfunctions.

 Introduce a myofascial sequencing model of "taping movements, not muscles."



### PERFORMANCE MOVEMENT TECHNIQUES

A hands-on course that will teach you how to use movement-based concepts to achieve MOBILITY, STABILITY and BALANCE.





### RockTape.com 408.912.ROCK









