How To Breathe Easier

Call 911 if you have sudden problems breathing, have blue lips or if you feel confused.

Breathing



- Take extra breaths between tasks if you need to. Return to your breathing patterns as soon as you can.
 - Take several deep breaths before you start any task.
 - Breathe in (inhale) before each movement.
 - Do the movement while you breathe out (exhale).
 - Breathe out twice as long as you breathe in.
 For example, inhale 2 seconds and exhale 4 seconds.
- Wear your oxygen as directed.

Standing, Climbing



- How to stand up from a chair:
 - Take a deep breath.
 - Rise to your feet when you breathe out through pursed lips (like blowing out a candle).
- How to go up stairs or walk up a hill:
 - Take a deep breath.
 Do this before you start to climb.
 - Breathe out through pursed lips and climb two to three stairs or take two to three steps.
 - Stop and rest while you breathe in with your diaphragm.
 - Keep climbing in the same way.

Reaching



- How to reach:
 - Take a deep breath.
 - Breathe out through pursed lips. Reach up or down.
- How to shave or comb your hair:
 - Take a deep breath.
 - Breathe out through pursed lips. Lift your arms and shave or comb 2 or 3 strokes.
 - Lower your arms and rest while you breathe in (use your diaphragm).
 - Keep shaving or combing in the same way.
- Try not to reach over your head or bend down.

Pushing



- How to push a broom, vacuum cleaner or lawn mower:
 - Take a deep breath.
 - Push the object while you breathe out with pursed lips.
 - Stop and rest while you breathe in (use your diaphragm).
 - Keep pushing in the same way.

Lifting



- How to lift:
 - Take a deep breath.
 - Breathe out through pursed lips, lift the load, and set it down.



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