Grounding Techniques for Anxiety Relief: Stay Present & Calm

Save this cheat sheet for quick access whenever you need grounding!

Emergency Grounding Reminder

Move your body (shake your arms, stretch, or run in place).
Engage your senses (touch, taste, smell, sound, sight).
Orient to your present environment
Repeat: *"I am here. I am safe."*

What is Grounding?

Grounding helps bring you back to the present moment by engaging your senses and body. It is useful when feeling anxious, overwhelmed, or disconnected.

Mental Grounding Techniques

5-4-3-2-1 Method Identify:

- 5 things you can see
- 4 things you can touch
- 3 things you can hear
- 2 things you can smell
- 1 thing you can taste
- Recite a Mantra: Repeat a phrase like "I am safe in this moment."
- Describe Your Surroundings: Observe & name objects in detail.
- Count Backwards: From 100 by 7s or a similar challenging sequence.

Breathwork Techniques

Box Breathing: Inhale 4s – Hold 4s – Exhale 4s – Hold 4s.

Belly Breathing: Place a hand on your stomach; inhale deeply, making your belly rise, then exhale slowly.

Humming Breath: Hum a tune to create vibrations that calm the nervous system.

Physical Grounding Techniques Feet on the Floor: Press your feet firmly against the ground & focus on the sensation.

- Hold a Cold Object: Use an ice cube or a cool drink to bring awareness to your body.
- Fouch & Texture: Hold a rough stone, soft fabric, or another textured object to feel its surface.
 Walk Barefoot: Feel the different textures beneath your feet (grass, carpet, sand, etc.).

When I am anxious I perceive the world as....