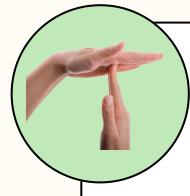
5-MINUTE EMOTIONAL RESET



01. PAUSE (1 MINUTE)

Purpose: Interrupt the automatic "urge \rightarrow eat" loop.

What to do:

- 1. Stop and notice: "I'm feeling an urge."
- 2. Say (silently or aloud): Pause. I have a choice.
- 3. Delay acting for 60 seconds. (You can still eat afterwards if you want.)

Why it works:

Research on urge surfing (Marlatt, 1994) shows that cravings rise, peak, and fall like waves — usually within minutes. By pausing, you weaken the brain's habitual link between discomfort and eating.

02. BREATHE (2 MINUTES)

Purpose: Calm the stress response that drives emotional eating.

What to do:

- Try the 4-6 breath: Inhale through the nose for 4 counts, exhale through the mouth for 6.
- Do this for 5 slow breaths.
- As you breathe out, silently say: I can handle this feeling.

Why it works:

This activates the parasympathetic nervous system ("rest and digest"), lowering cortisol and heart rate (Ma et al., 2017). Emotional eating often starts with physiological stress, breathing brings your body back to baseline.



03. CHOOSE (2 MINUTES)

Purpose: Connect to what you actually need — food or emotional relief.

Ask yourself:

- 1. "What am I feeling right now?" (e.g., lonely, anxious, bored, overwhelmed)
- 2. "What do I really need?" (e.g., rest, connection, reassurance, movement, comfort)
- 3. If I still want to eat, what would feel nourishing to my body right now?

Why it works:

Emotional eating is often an attempt to regulate emotion. Labeling feelings activates the prefrontal cortex (Lieberman et al., 2007), helping you respond thoughtfully instead of reactively.





OPTIONAL 2-MINUTE GROUNDING EXERCISE

(if urge persists)

The 5-4-3-2-1 Technique (used in mindfulness and trauma-informed therapy):

- Name 5 things you can see
- Name 4 things you can touch
- Name 3 things you can hear
- Name 2 things you can smell
- Name 1 thing you can taste

This shifts focus from emotional distress to sensory awareness, reducing intensity of the craving.

A SIMPLE STEP TOWARD LASTING CHANGE

This simple reset interrupts the automatic, "autopilot" response that drives emotional eating. It gives you a brief moment of mindful awareness, just enough space to make a conscious choice instead of a reactive one.

Why this is only the first step

You can't breathe away deep-seated emotional patterns, but you can start by becoming aware of them. In my upcoming course, "Overcome Emotional Eating and Lose Weight Naturally," we'll go deeper into:

- Identifying your emotional triggers
- Rewiring the link between emotions and food
- Building lasting self-regulation habits that support long-term success

This is just the beginning and you've already taken the most important step: awareness. Keep practicing, stay curious, and trust that real change grows from these small, mindful moments.

PRINTABLE RESET SCRIPT

(Keep this on your fridge or phone)

STOP.

Take 3 slow breaths.

"I'm having an urge, and I have a choice."

Ask:

What am I feeling?

What do I really need right now?

What's one small act of care I can do instead?

(If I still want to eat, I'll slow down and really enjoy each bite.)

First Step



A DESSERT THAT WON'T LEAVE YOU CRAVING MORE

HEALTHY NO-BAKE CHOCOLATE HAZELNUT BARK

READY IN UNDER 15 MINUTES!

A balanced, freezer-friendly snack that satisfies without the crash or cravings.

Ingredients

- ½ cup raw cacao powder
- ¼ cup pure maple syrup
- ½ cup coconut oil, melted
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- ¼ cup nut butter
- ½ cup roughly chopped hazelnuts
- 3 tbsp rolled oats

Method

- 1. In a mixing bowl, whisk together the cacao powder, maple syrup, melted coconut oil, vanilla, and nut butter until smooth.
- 2. Stir in the chopped hazelnuts and oats.
- 3. Pour the mixture into a lined, freezer-safe tray or container
- 4. Freeze for about 30 minutes, or until set.
- 5. Break into bark pieces and enjoy a crunchy, chocolatey treat that's as nourishing as it is delicious.





Emotional eating is not a flaw. It's communication. It's your body and mind saying: "Something inside needs attention." Instead of silencing the signal with guilt, try listening with curiosity. Healing is not linear. But with awareness, kindness, and small daily changes, you can create peace with food and with yourself.



Nourish your body. Honour your cravings. Feel amazing.

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