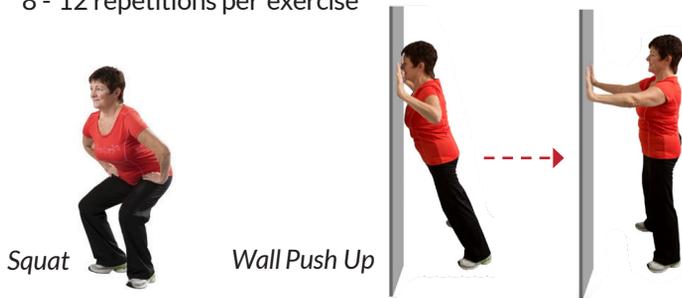


# Too Fit to Fall or Fracture

## Strength Training At least 2 days/week

- ▶ Exercises for legs, arms, chest, shoulders, back
- ▶ Use body weight against gravity, bands, or weights\*
- ▶ 8 - 12 repetitions per exercise



### Try these to get started:

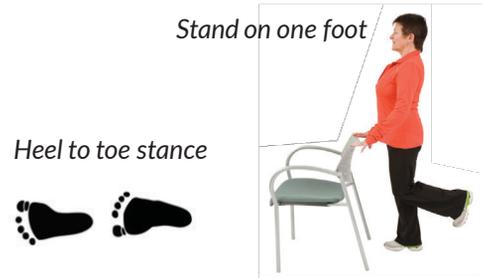
- Classes at a gym/community centre
- Consult a physical therapist/physio
- Contact Healthy Bones Australia

Seated Row



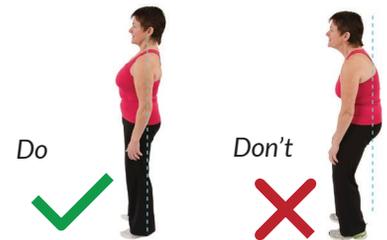
## Balance Exercises Every day

- ▶ TaiChi, dancing, walking on your toes or heels
- ▶ Have a sturdy chair, counter, or wall nearby, and try (from easier to harder): shift weight from heels to toes while standing; stand heel to toe; stand on one foot; walk on a pretend line



## Posture Awareness Every day

- ▶ Gently tuck your chin in and draw your chest up slightly
- ▶ Imagine your collarbones are wings - spread your wings slightly without pulling your shoulders back



## Aerobic Physical Activity At least 150 mins/week

- ▶ Bouts of 10 mins or more, moderate to vigorous intensity\*
- ▶ You should feel like your heart is beating faster and you are breathing harder
- ▶ You might be able to talk while doing it, but not sing

### Examples:

- Brisk walking
- Dancing
- Jogging
- Aerobics class

\*If you have a spine fracture, consult a medical professional/physical therapist before using weights, and choose moderate, not vigorous aerobic physical activity

# Too Fit to Fall or Fracture

## Strength Training (more examples) At least 2 days/week

Other exercises include:

- ▶ Upright row
- ▶ Step up



## What are spine sparing strategies?

Spine sparing strategies help “spare” the spine from injury. Injuries to the spine can occur when we bend forward or twist the spine quickly or repeatedly, or if we lift something heavy, bend far forward (e.g., tying shoes) or twist the torso all the way to the side. Bending or twisting while holding a weighted object (e.g., groceries, grandchild) is also risky.

Spine sparing strategies:

- ▶ Bend with your hips and knees, not your spine
- ▶ Turn your whole body rather than twisting your spine

