

# The Pilates Guidebook

Pilates Mat exercises-theory & practice



contains QR code links  
to most exercises

A handbook for teachers & enthusiasts

By Richard A Brown

# Pilates At Home Goodreads Choice Usa

**B Lingard**



## **Pilates At Home Goodreads Choice Usa:**

**Everything Pilates** Amy Taylor Alpers,2011-12-15 Explore the fitness craze that s right for everyone Whether you re a ballerina or a couch potato a mountain biker or a fitness novice you can do Pilates and reap its amazing benefits Perfect for building stronger leaner more flexible muscles relieving stress and achieving full body health the Pilates method is a revolutionary program that has the power to transform lives Written by the founders of the internationally renowned studio The Pilates Center The Everything Pilates Book gives you all you need to start doing Pilates in your own home and choose a studio that s right for you The book provides step by step instruction on how to do such incredible exercises as the Spine Stretch the Roll Up and the Swan as well as more than 100 clear photographs that make it easy to get started The Everything Pilates Book helps you Create a supple powerful body Prevent osteoporosis Reduce the risk of injury Establish proper posture Increase strength and flexibility Tone abs Alleviate back pain No matter of your physical condition The Everything Pilates Book can help you take control of your body **Pilates for You** Ann Crowther,2006 [Pilates for You](#) Ann Crowther,2009

**Pilates: Full-Body Workouts for a Stronger, Sexier You** Jasmine Evans,2012-07-30 ABOUT THE BOOK Pilates is a kind of exercise that works both the mind and the body It improves strength without necessarily building bulk It also targets the core midsection and other muscles that often get neglected by other activities My introduction to Pilates happened at an early age For most of my life I was considered tall for my age with long legs and big feet My parents thought it would be a good idea to enroll their lanky toddler in ballet classes I continued those classes and other dance classes for over 14 years In high school I was a lean 5 8 ballet dancer and basketball player I still had big feet but they were complemented by long legs long arms and a long neck What did I have to complain about My midsection I was relatively slim but I had a pudgy middle In high school where appearances are everything I wanted to do something about it Fortunately around this time my dance instructor introduced the class to the Pilates method She said that Pilates is based off of the ballet moves many of us had been doing for most of our lives She promised that the method would flatten our midsections and make us feel taller My dance instructor made good on her promise After just 15 20 minutes of Pilates before we started dancing I felt taller Over time I felt slimmer I was hooked I ve been doing Pilates ever since and I love it I ve taken classes and I ve done several Pilates DVDs Of all the activities I participate in everything from running to basketball to kickboxing to Zumba Pilates is one that I always come back to because it is really so effective and important EXCERPT FROM THE BOOK Pull the part of your stomach area that is below your belly button upwards and inwards as if you are pulling it away from your belt line Keep your rib cage relaxed and breathe normally You should be able to feel the muscle contracting in your lower abdomen Another essential skill is being able to activate your pelvic floor Your pelvic floor muscles are at the base of your abdomen They control your bladder and bowel functions They also stabilize not only the pelvis but also the lower back If you have lower back pain are pregnant or experience incontinence learning how to control these pelvic floor muscles can really help How do

you activate your pelvic floor Start in neutral spine position Contract the muscles you would use to urinate Breathe as you normally would Once you can handle activating your TA and your pelvic muscles separately try activating them together Ready for some advanced Pilates moves Great Here are six of the most common moves for experienced Pilates pupils Because sometimes it s easier to see the moves being done rather than reading about them many of the links in this section are to videos Advanced Pilates ExercisesThe Crab The Crab requires complete control from your core so it will give you a great ab workout It builds on exercises like the Roll Up but is slightly more advanced Start by sitting up straight Bend your knees almost Indian style and cross your feet at the ankles Bring your knees up to your shoulders and grab your feet with your hands Drop your head and allow your spine to curve as you prepare to roll Breathe in and roll back Control the movement Try not to let your limbs flail around Once you roll to your shoulders let go of your feet and switch your feet around Grab your feet again as you prepare to roll up Breathe out and roll forward Inhale as your head touches the mat Roll back to repeat the move Double Leg Kick This move works the back extensors and the hamstrings primarily but it can be a total body exercise as well Start by lying face down with your head turned to one side and your feet together *Total Pilates* Ann Crowther,2009 Based on Ann Crowther s proven development of the Joseph Pilates system this book presents simple practical measures to improve health and well being through a unique body mind approach combining exercise diet and relaxation Pilates for You Ann Crowther,2003-03 Pilates Linda Paden,2014 Pilates is one of the healthiest activities you can do for your body Using this full color highly visual book for beginners Idiot s Guides Pilates will improve flexibility posture and strength all while decreasing back neck and joint pain The step by step instructions feature Pilates skills at home using only a mat bands and balls without the need for all of the expensive machines found in a studio

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