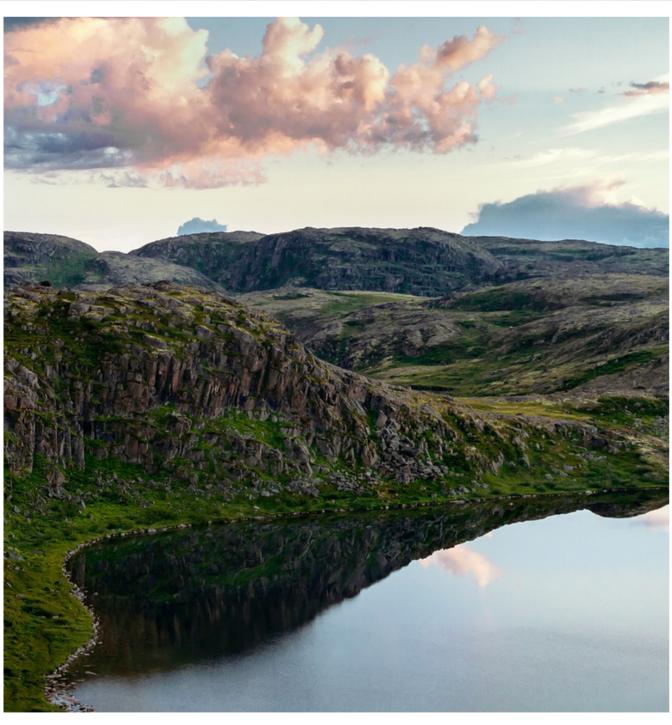
ULTIMATE LIFE

STARTER KIT

CREATE A LIFE THAT LIGHTS YOU UP









WWW.ULTIMATELIFE.CA



I'm so glad you're here!

My approach to wellness focuses on adding more organic, real foods to your diet, letting go of unhealthy lifestyle practices that don't serve you (or your spirit), and dialing down the stress. We won't be counting calories or making you feel deprived or inadequate—you're done with all that. Instead, I'll help you create a place that works for you as you move toward a more holistic way of living. It's my mission in life to help women heal their relationship with food and their bodies, and claim the freedom that they so crave and deserve. It all starts right here. I'll give you some simple steps and resources that you can begin to implement right away. You don't have to change everything all at once. I put this Starter Kit together so you will have all this health information in one place. Go at a pace that makes you happy. Choose a few (or even one!) of the principles that resonate and start there. This isn't a race or a trend. It's your glorious, beautiful life, and you're worth the effort it'll take to feel amazing and vibrant!

5 Steps

To healing your relationship with food

1. For the love of God please stop dieting

Ditch all those rules, bad habits, weekly weigh-ins, calorie counting, and weighing food. This isn't what you want your life to look like, and diets will actually keep you stuck.

2. There is no such thing as good or bad food

Food is just food. Except when it isn't. The only thing you have to think about is "Will this nourish my body?" and "How is this going to make me feel?"If it's not nourishing and makes you feel like crap, don't eat it.

3. Learn to have intelligent eating

Look at how your food is making you feel, and learn to eat with intention. Be mindful of what your putting into your body. Take the time to really enjoy your food, without distractions. Eating at your desk in front of a computer or in your car don't count.

4. There are no "good days, or bad days"

Start to see your life as a series of choices. One bad choice doesn't have to write off your day or your week. There is no need to beat yourself up, or binge on junk food because you screwed up. Just take a deep breath and make your next choice a good one.

5 Steps To healing your relationship with food

5. Get excited about food

Cooking can be very therapeutic. Get in the kitchen and try new things, explore and start a love affair with your food. Try new recipes and ingredients every week. Invite friends and family to join you too. Turn up the music and really enjoy being connnected to the experience.



Does this Sound Familiar?

You start each day with good intentions, but by 3pm you're way off track and you're starting your new diet again next Monday? Your interested in eating healthier but you don't know what to do and the internet is so full of confusing and contradicting information, that you have no idea where to start? Paleo? Vegan? GF? JERF? WTF? You feel at war with your food and your body. You want to love it, but don't feel that you can until you've lost weight. If any of that sounds like you, you're in the right place.

Most of us have been on a diet at some point in our lives, in fact, you might feel that you've been dieting your whole life! I know, I've certainly tried my fair share. The biggest problem with diets is that they glorify will power, and sticking to a set of rules, rather than tuning into your body's natural intuition. Not listiening to that intuition, and not listening to your body is what got you into this mess in the first place!

No amount of points, 'free food', rules or weird tricks will heal what actually needs to be healed: your relationship with food and your body.

It's time to Change the Story's you tell Yourself

Life is a story.

Everyday is a new page.

Every year, a new chapter.

And it is your life, it's your story to tell.

To author, to craft, to create, and to write.

If your image had been shared without

your permission, if you have been

harassed, or body shamed, or beat

yourself up.

If your life has become something that someone else is writing for you, I have your back.

Take back your life.

You are not alone.

You are not helpless.

You are always stronger than you think You have the power to change your story. Change the story.

Woman do everyday who love their bodies

It can be confusing to know how to love our body. You may think:

How can I love my body when I have so much weight to lose? How can I love my body but want to change it at the same time?

How can I love my body when it doesn't look the way I want it too?

It does not mean you stop eating healthy or stop exercising. and thinking you may never have the body you want so you might as well just give up.

It does not mean looking in the mirror everyday and trying hard to love your wobbly bits that you have spent years trying to get rid of.

It's not about trying to make your body look like someone else's body or your sixteen year old self body.

Here are the 5 things to do daily to love your body!

1. Treat your body like you would your best friend

Start to think of your body as your best friend. You wouldn't disrespect your best friend, mom, sister, or someone you really cared about. You deeply love and respect them, so next time you catch yourself talking down about your body ask your self if you would talk to your daughter that way or your mom, or anyone?? Do not allow that negative self talk anymore! NON-NEGOTIABLE!

Woman do everyday who love their bodies

2.Don't ignore your body, Listen to it intently.

Often we are disconnected from our body. We don't listen to what they are trying to tell us, we manipulate them, and try to change them through diets and rules. No wonder dieting doesn't work.

We need to start to listen to our body and honoring what it really needs. It could be more sleep, more self care, or being more aware of your feelings when you catch yourself trying to eat them instead. Loving your body is about listening and connecting on a daily basis. We often eat out of boredom, stress, eating mindlessly, or out of habit. Start to really listen.

3. Focus on how you want to feel, not how you look

Focus on how your body feels and stop obsessing over how it looks. When your body feels good you naturally make better choices because you want to continue feeling that way. Then you start to look better too! Stop looking in the mirror after your workouts to see how tight your abs are and focus on how good you feel after your workout.

Here's the deal- when you start respecting, loving, and listening to your body you start to cultivate a beautiful relationship with yourself. You stop wanting to disrespect your body by eating crap or hanging around other people that make you feel like crap. It's all about self worth.

5 Things

Woman do everyday who love their bodies

The more we are accepting and loving we are of our bodies, the more we start to nourish them, respect them and align them with beautiful choices that our body loves. We have all heard the saying "you are what you eat" so if you want to feel vibrant, empowered, energized, happy then the foods you eat should support this. If you are counting calories, restricting yourself, and going hungry then you are not eating for the future you that you want to be. Start eating as if it is in the future and you are exactly where you want to be. You have to start now. Not next Monday or next month, or after Christmas or after the next holiday. Start NOW!

4. Never Diet

No amount of dieting can make you love your body. Even if you diet and at the end of it you lose weight you are still talking down to your body. Self-love is the most neglected part of weight loss and good health that exists. But it is essential if we have any chance of ever being happy in our own skin. The biggest shift in your relationship with food happens when you surrender and start being kind to yourself again. Stop caring about being skinny and focus on health. Stop caring about how much you weigh and eat to nourish and have a loving place instead. Your body will find a natural, healthy weight it wants to be at and you can feel at peace with. It has nothing to do with a new diet and everything to do with a new mindset.

Woman do everyday who love their bodies

5. Never weigh yourself

Weighing yourself is a sure way to stay in a battle with your body. Why are we validating ourselves from a number on a scale?!! That number doesn't tell you how beautiful you are, how smart you are, your morals and your values, how fit, how strong, how kind and generous you are. So why do we care so much about a number?

It doesn't tell us how much muscle we have or how much fat we dropped. It just tells us how heavy we are. If you truly want to be happy, then stop the need for control over the numbers. Once you do this, you will have so much more happiness and freedom. I haven't weighed myself in years and it is truly liberating!



-Melissa Ethridge



"Meart to Meart"

Try eating one plant-based meal per day, and then up your game from there. Start looking up your products at EWG's Skin Deep Database. What we put on our skin is just as important what we put in our body. Do a few sun salutations or meditation next time you're feeling overwhelmed or tense. Your first action could be as simple as sitting back and expanding your awareness with a guided meditaion for 5-10 minutes with Deepak Chopra. Enjoy each step, no matter how small.



"Meart to Meart

Fuel yourself with great food

- Next time you want an energy boost make a smoothie or a green juice.
- Drink clean filtered water. Remember if you are thirsty you are already dehydrated.
- Go meatless or cut back when you can. Unhealthy animals also give us unhealthy food.
- Ditch the dairy. It is very inflammatory.
- Say goodbye to refined sugars. It is highly addictive and promotes growth in cancers and diabetes.
- Get cooking. You will feel physically and mentally better when you cook your own food.
- Eat organic when possible. Eat organic fruits and veggies when possible to limit the anount of pesticides in your body, which can damage our immune systems.
- Become a bargain hunter. Buy in bulk, use coupons, my local, shop farmers markets, and grow what you can.

If you're worried about giving up all your favorite treats, don't be. I still enjoy yummy indulgences; they're just healthier now. Reach for dark chocolate instead of a pint of ice cream. I didn't get here overnight. I had plenty of support from friends and enough research to know that what I put in my body is what I'll get out of it. You can do this!

My Fav Veggies

```
cucumbers
          broccoli
            kale
       collard greens
           celery
          parsley
          cabbage
romaine red lettuce spinach
          peppers
         zucchini
         asparagus
        Swiss chard
       green beans
       alfalfa sprouts
           garlic
           leeks
        cauliflower
       winter squash
          carrots
          arugula
         bok choy
       sweet potatoes
          parsnips
          turnips
         kohlrabi
           tat soi
          jicama
```

My Fav Fruits

avocados
tomatoes
green apples
lemons
limes
pears
grapes
berries(all)
cherries
grapefruit
mango
pineapple

Don't let anyone ever dull your sparkle

Natural Sugars

Sugars are sugars but these are better alternatives to refind sugars

- greent leaf stevia
- xylitol
- yacon syrup
- coconut sugar
- maple syrup
- medjool dates
- Sunchoke syrup
- raw unpasturized honey in moderation

Fermented Foods

Bragg's organic apple cider vinegar organic tempeh sauerkraut unpasteurized organic miso kimchi Kombucha

Good source of B vitamins, high in good bacteria which is great for your gut health. Opt for raw, naturally fermented foods

Beans and Legumes

chickpeas
lentils
adzuki white beans
black beans
lima beans
pinto beans
kidney beans

A protein powerhouse that is loaded with fiber, these varieties are the easiest to digest. I recommend Eden brand for canned beans:

Nuts and Seeds

almonds pine nuts pecans flaxseeds walnuts chia seeds cashews macadamias sesame seeds hazelnuts hemp seeds sunflower seeds almond butter cashew butter tahini (made from sesame seeds)

Packed with vitamins, minerals, good fats, proteins, and fiber, these options are best bought raw and fresh and stored in the fridge or freezer

Flours

amaranth flour
black bean flour
flaxseed meal
potato flour
millet flour
oat flour
nut flour (almond)
quinoa flour (check out
bobsredmill.com)
Chickpea flour
coconut flour
Store flour in the freezer
for freshness.

GRAINS

quinoa
millet
brown rice
oats
buckwheat

Noodles

Tinkyada organic brown rice pasta
Ancient Harvest quinoa pasta buckwheat soba (some brands contain wheat)
Tolerant organic red lentil pasta

Breads

Food for Life breads and wraps
Amy's gluten-free pizza, and corn tortillas

My favorite non-glutenfree bread is Ezekiel brand. Made from sprouted grains, this bread is easy to digest.

Seasonings

```
Celtic or Himalayan sea
salt Herbamare (sea salt
      and herbs)
   wheat-free tamari
 Bragg's Liquid Aminos
    ginger powder
     garlic powder
         basil
        parsley
        cilantro
         mint
          dill
       rosemary
        thyme
     black pepper
         curry
       turmeric
       cinnamon
       cayenne
    mustard seeds
        wasabi
```

Dairy Alternatives

almond,
rice,
hemp milk
Coconut milk
cashew milk
Vegenaise vegan
mayonnaise

Seaweed

dulse flakes
arame (great on salads)
hijiki
wakame
nori sheets

Seaweed is Loaded with minerals and flavor, try these varieties to make delicious wraps (simply fill veggies and grains in a nori sheet and wrap

Egg Replacers

organic silken tofu
flaxseed meal
mashed bananas
arrowroot powder
chickpea flour
Ener-G Foods' egg
replacerof body text

Healthy Snacks

fresh salsa
hummus
guacamole
blue corn tortilla chips
oil-cured olives
air-popped popcorn

Healthy Fats

organic cold-pressed
extra-virgin olive oil
flaxseed oil
hemp seed oil
walnut oil
macadamia or avocado oil
(great for salads)

For cooking try olive oil, sesame, grape seed, and unrefined coconut oil.

Gone are the days of fat-free diets. The right kinds of fats are vital for your health, especially the ones loaded with omega-3 fatty acids, which are important for memory and reducing inflammation.

How to get started: Self Care

- 1. Exercise 5 days a week for 30 minutes. Find something YOU love to do.
- 2.Opt for natural skin care. I LOVE Om Organics Canada
- 3.Bring it down a notch. De-stress by meditating, deep breathing, yoga, keep a gratitude journal, or dance in your living room.
- 4.Get good quality sleep. Optimal hours are 10-7 Set an intention like"May I sleep calm, peacuful and deeply."
- 5.Build boundries and time for self care. Say NO when it doesn't serve you.
- 6. Laughter really is the best medicine. Giggles boost your immune system. Watch a funny movie.
- 7.Embrace your imperfections. Perfection is boring and rigid, plus no one is perfect.It's OK to take detours once in a while.
- 8. When you hit the road: bring healthy snacks, know places you can grab something quick that are healthy, bring your yoga mat, essential oils. The more prepared you are the easier it is when you are away from home.

How to get started: Self Care

9.Soak in the tub for 20 minutes Here is a great one:

Mix 2 cups Epsom salt, 1/2 cup raw apple cider vinegar, 1/4 cup baking soda, and a few drops of lavender essential oil in a warm tub. Ahhh . . . Enjoy!



This lifestyle isn't only about food. It's about embracing your inner goddess and letting go of the mantra, "I don't have time for this." You don't have to love yoga and adopt a sixtyminute meditation to get the health benefits of the Ultimate Life Philosophy. Writing a list of three things you're grateful for or trying to sit still and meditate for ten minutes is a great way to start. Take time for you because you're so worth it!

That's it for now my friend

Love ya lots and can't wait to connect with you more. Below is a list of where we can continue to learn and grow together









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