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Implement Trail Running in Base for Injury Prevention

By **Matt Russ**

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The shoes we run in today are great for reducing impact. There are a myriad of devices, gels, air channels, etc., designed to lesson the compressive loads on the joints and body. One drawback, however, is that if you do most of your running on even, paved surfaces the lower leg muscles and joints do not have to work as hard to stabilize. Joint stability and integrity is crucial for injury prevention. This is where trail running comes in.

Running over uneven and varied surfaces makes the muscles of the lower leg work especially hard. Think specific strength training for the lower leg muscles. I recently observed how sore my lower legs were after a competing in an off road multi-sport event. The tendons, ligaments, and muscles all get stronger in response to this type of stress.

There are a few considerations when integrating trail running into your training plan. Unless you run in off road events the best time to incorporate trail running into your plan is in base. As with any new type of training stress it is important to implement it gradually. You may want to start off with one work out per week of limited mileage and steadily increase the duration. Off road surfaces vary from crushed gravel, sand, grass, single track hiking trails, to rough back country trails. The more varied the terrain the more your lower legs and body will be stressed. On extremely rough and elevated terrain, hiking may be just as effective (and safer) than running. You will likely enter your aerobic base zones in this type of terrain as well, and may not need to run.

Trail shoes offer more support and traction but much less cushioning. Trail shoes vary from running shoes with a more aggressive tread all the way up to hiking shoes which may not applicable for running. Make sure you consult with a salesperson to get the right shoe for your type of training. I do

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not recommend doing any road running in a trail shoe, but you can take your running shoes off road if the surface is relatively stable, such as crushed gravel.

Trail running does not just work the lower legs, but all the muscles associated with running, including lateral knee stability. It also will help develop coordination. You can continue to incorporate trail running throughout the season for strength maintenance. An added bonus is that it adds variety to your training, and the scenery is better.

Matt Russ has coached and trained athletes around the country and internationally. He currently holds licenses by USAT, USATF, and is an Expert level USAC coach. Matt has coached athletes for CTS (Carmichael Training Systems), is an Ultrafit Associate. Visit www.thesportfactory.com for more information.

Colloidal Silver Water Benefits

By Chester Ku-Lea

Colloidal Silver is a solution containing microscopic particles of pure silver permanently suspended in de-ionized water. The solution inhibits the ability of disease-causing organisms such as bacteria, virus, fungus and parasites from assimilating oxygen. As a consequence, the disease-causing organisms literally suffocate and die.

Pure silver has been used for hundreds of years in the prevention and treatment of illness from injury or toxic substance. During the Middle Ages silver goblets were used as drinking vessels in the belief that they prevented poisoning from bad wine or contaminated water or other liquid.

Pure Silver has been used as a liner in water canteens since the 100's. The water held in these canteens stays sweet and clean until consumed.

No research has shown that any known disease-causing organism can live in the presence of even minute traces of the chemical element of metallic silver.

Benefits

- may help with the prevention and treatment of illness from injury or toxic substance
- inhibits the ability of disease-causing organisms such as bacteria, virus, fungus and parasites
- preservative to fight infections

Chester is a health nutrition consultant and is the owner of

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of premium health nutrition and sports supplements.

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