

Gather your gear...

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About your balls •• (you'll need two)

Therapy balls are going to be your number one tool throughout this course. It's important to choose the right ones. In this course, we're striving for therapeutic pressure – which means we're looking for balls that aren't too hard. Here's some options:

Racquetballs - <u>these</u> are squishy and hollow on the inside. If you're new to massage and you're budget-conscious, I recommend starting here.

Yoga Tune Up Balls - these are the cream of the crop. Yes, they're more expensive than racquetballs but they come in a variety of sizes, which I find useful. For this course, you should start with <u>these</u>. They come with a mesh bag to hold the two of them together. There are plenty of "off brand" balls on Amazon that are similar to Yoga Tune Up. I haven't tried them so I can't vouch for their density.

<u>Pinky Hi Bounce Balls</u> - these are pretty similar to Yoga Tune Up balls in terms of density and they're much cheaper. The downside is, they don't come with a tether and they only come in one size. You can easily get them on Amazon. You might also be able to find them at a dollar store near you.

How to hold your balls together

Sometimes we'll use one ball at a time. But when we use both together, you'll need a tether. Yoga Tune Up balls conveniently come with their own mesh bag. If you're using one of the other options, however, I recommend a tube sock. Simply tie the end off to keep your balls in place.

Other gear

Yoga Block - I'm using a <u>cork block by Manduka</u> but any old <u>foam block</u> will do as well. If you don't have a yoga block or don't want to purchase one, a thick hardback book can work.

Blanket - I recommend a <u>Mexican style blanket</u> like the ones you might find at a yoga studio. They're stiffer than the blanket you might cozy up with on the couch and therefore will help provide the therapeutic pressure we're looking for.

<u>Wooden dowel</u> - Feel free to head to your local craft store and snag a 1/2" to 3/4" balsa wood dowel. You can also use a long-handled wooden spoon or a broom stick.