Poor neck posture leads to a Forward Head Position which is one of the most common causes of neck, head and shoulder tension and pain. For every inch that the head moves forward in posture, it increases the weight of the head on the neck by 10 pounds. Long term abnormal neck posture leads to muscle strain, disc herniations, arthritis, pinched nerves and instability, fibromyalgia, myofascial pain syndrome, temporomandibular joint dysfunction and chronic fatigue syndromes. A great way to start correcting poor neck posture is with neck exercises, which are designed to help gain control over postural neck muscles which become tense and weak over time.

These exercises can cause some mild soreness, this feeling is normal and should not be confused with a true pain. This soreness should not last for more than a day or two after the postural neck exercises.

All exercises can be repeated 2 to 3 times a day.

1. ROLLED UP TOWEL
Do this to gradually restore the correct curve to your neck. Simply roll up a bath towel according to your neck’s curve, You can tie both ends with a rubber band. Lie on your back, then place it in the indent of your neck, making sure that your head and your shoulders are touching the bed’s surface. Do this 10 minutes twice daily.

8. SHOULDER SQUEEZE EXERCISE ON A BALL
Lie on an exercise ball, ball should be between your abdomen and your rib cage and both arms in a Y position. Squeeze your shoulder blades together as you raise your upper back. Hold for 10 seconds and repeat 10 times. Make sure to tuck your chin in. Alternatively, this exercise can be done in your front over a cushion or pillows.

9. CHIN TUCK EXERCISE IN SITTING (FUNKY CHICKEN)
Sit upright with the back supported by a backrest. Place your finger on your chin. Then draw your chin away from your finger as you pull it in. This is basically a nodding movement with your head as if saying ‘yes’ without dropping your head or looking down. Hold for 10 seconds and repeat 3-5 times.
**2. ACTIVE RANGE OF MOTION EXERCISES OF THE CERVICAL SPINE**

- **NECK FLEXION AND EXTENSION** Repeat 3 times
- **NECK SIDE BENDING** - Repeat 3 times
- **NECK ROTATION (SIDE TO SIDE)** - Repeat 3 times

**3. SHOULDER ABDUCTION AGAINST THE WALL**

Stand against the wall with your arms at your sides. Place a rolled towel at the back of your neck. Bring your arms up, out to the side, and toward the ceiling. Hold for 5 seconds. Return to the starting position. Repeat 10 times.

**4. UPPER BACK CHEST MUSCLE STRETCHING EXERCISES**

- **Upper Back and Shoulder Stretch** Stand or sit. Interlace fingers behind you, extend arms upward until you feel the stretch. Hold for 10 seconds, Do 5 sets, repeat 3 times daily.
- **Chest/pectoralis Muscle Stretch** Stand facing the corner of a wall and hands rested on each side, hands at shoulder level. Then try to push yourself towards the wall and hold it for 5 seconds repeat 3 times in each day. Make sure don’t over stretch your shoulders.

**5. SHOULDER SQUEEZE EXERCISE (ELBOWS AND SHOULDERS AT RIGHT ANGLE)**

Stand or sit on upright position with both elbow flexed to 90˚ and within shoulder level. Squeeze your shoulder blades together. Hold for 10 seconds and repeat 10 times. Make sure to tuck your chin in.

**6. SHOULDER EXTERNAL ROTATION**

Stand upright with both elbow flexed to 90˚, upper arms held close to your sides and wrists in neutral position. Move both arms outward while squeezing your shoulder blades together and keeping the upper arm close to your side. Hold for 10 seconds and repeat 10 times. Make sure to tuck your chin in.

**7. SHOULDER RETRACTION**

Sit upright with the shoulders and arms relaxed on your side. Make circling movements towards the back. Do this regularly during sitting especially while at your desk or work station.