

Written Description for: Section 11, Lesson 5

Qi Pressure Exercise #4: Step Breathing

- (i) Adopt Reverse Breathing:
 - Begin in a seated position with your spine straight, or stand in the Simple Stance.
 - Engage in reverse breathing, keeping the abdomen drawn in during inhalation and expanding outward during exhalation.
- (ii) Divide the Inhalation into Steps:
 - Inhale 10% of your lung capacity and pause.
 - Hold the breath for 2 seconds.
 - Take in another 10% and hold again.
 - Continue this process in increments until your lungs are completely full.
- (iii) Feel the Qi Pressure:
 - With each mini-inhalation, observe the pressure building within the lungs. Notice how every small sip of air carries *Qi*, multiplying the amount of energy stored compared to a single continuous breath.
- (iv) Full Breath Retention:
 - Once you reach your maximum lung capacity, hold the full breath for a few seconds, allowing the *Qi* to consolidate and integrate into the body.
- (v) Controlled Exhalation:
 - Slowly release the breath in a long, controlled manner, allowing the abdomen to expand outward as you exhale.