

With the Finishing Sequence, the Aṣṭāṅga Yoga practice comes to its energetic culmination. The steady audible breathing (Ujjāyī $\stackrel{\frown}{=} \underbrace{e}$) leads you inward, subtle muscle contractions (Bandha) activate the flow of energy (Prāṇa), and the focus of perception (Ḍṛṣti \underbrace{e}_{nose}) brings mental peace.

For novices, the sequence consists of only one sitting posture (Padmāsana), followed by the Closing Mantra (see there), and finally a relaxation posture (Śavāsana) until attention and breathing subside, and the last drop of sweat evaporates. With cumulative experience in practice, further tranquil positions (Āsana) are gradually added to complete the Finishing Sequence. Only a few movement sequences through a plank pose (Vinyāsa) or backwards roll (Cakrāsana) hold the underlying dynamics of the practice up.

