

The Sun Salutation (Sūrya Namaskāra) forms the basis of the Aṣṭāṅga Yoga practice. Here the steadiness of breath (Ujjāyī क्य), energy control (Bandha) and concentration (Dṛṣti ose) are established. This creates the powerful flow of a dynamic meditation, where you count the movements (Vinyāsa) like beads on a rosary and stay in certain positions for five breaths (Āsana क्यंडि).

After the Opening Mantra (see there), three to five rounds of Sūrya Namaskāra A and B can lead directly to a brief Finishing Sequence (see there). This results in a short, yet still complete and balanced practice. Once this has been established, the Fundamental Positions can then be included (see there) in between.

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## Vinyāsa count in Samskṛt:

1 = ekam; 2 = dve; 3 = trīṇi; 4 = catvāri; 5 = pañca; 6 = ṣaṭ; 7 = sapta; 8 = aṣṭau; 9 = nava; 10 = daśa; 11 = ekādaśa; 12 = dvādaśa; 13 = trayodaśa; 14 = caturdaśa; 15 = pañcadaśa; 16 = ṣoḍaśa; 17 = saptadaśa; 18 = aṣṭadaśa; 19 = ekonavimśatiḥ; 20 = vimśatiḥ; 21 = ekāvimśatiḥ; 22 = dvāvimśatih; 23 = trayovimśatih; 24 = caturvimśatiḥ; 25 = pañcavimśatih; 26 = soḍavimśatiḥ;

Dṛṣṭi / point of gaze in Saṁskṛt: nose = nāsāgre; thumb = añguṣṭhamadhye; 3. eye = bhrūmadhye; nable = nābicakre; above = ūrdhvadṛṣṭi; hand = hastāgre; foot = pādayoragre; side = pārśvadṛṣṭi

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This is part of the light version of the practice sheet. The coloured, foldable original is available on ashtangayoga.info

