The 200 Amazing Fitness Articles You Need to Know About

by Philip Stefanov | ThinkingLifter.com

With so many fitness articles online, it is easy to get overwhelmed and confused. There are so many blogs, magazines, books, and youtube channels that you would need ten lifetimes to consume all of that information.

But it doesn't stop there.

Every day, new players are popping up and contributing to the already stuffed niche of fitness, and more information is put out there.



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Not only that, but you also need to decide as to whether the piece of content you've just consumed is worth following or not.

And that is a skill you need to have: you need to know about nutrition, training, periodization, calories, macronutrients, supplements, exercises, human anatomy and much much more to get it right.

Otherwise, you could spend years chasing the wrong advice, not to mention waste your time.

Lifting: How it Has Evolved Over Time

Much like everything else, lifting has also come a long way. We used to believe a lot of things that we now know to be complete lies. And we also know and understand things we thought were ludicrous before.

And that's normal.

Research has evolved, lifting and bodybuilding have become more popular than ever, and in the informational era we live today, every smart individual can get the right information to move forward.

Make no mistake:

There still is a lot of misinformation crap out there, and I and many others have taken it as a personal challenge to help get rid of it bit by bit.

Today, there are thousands of awesome people out there who are dedicated to spreading legit information on nutrition, training, supplementation and more without asking for anything in return.

And to that end, I decided to compile this list of posts from the web into one tidy guide for you to enjoy.

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The Ultimate List of the Web's Best Fitness Resources FROM NUTRITION AND TRAINING TO POWERLIFTING, RECOVERY, AND MOBILITY. THIS GUIDE HAS YOU COVERED

CHAPTER 1

Everything You Need to Know About Nutrition and Diet

Proper nutrition is a fundamental aspect that a lot of people are struggling with. Without it, no matter how well you apply yourself in the gym, how much you sleep, and what supplements you take, you'll never truly reach your potential.

Here's why you're always hungry. (Hint: It's got absolutely nothing to do with calories).

Carbohydrate confessions: Stories (and data) from a low carb convert.

The Poor Misunderstood Carbohydrate

The myth of 1 g/lb: Optimal protein intake for bodybuilders

All About Healthy Fats

All About Fiber

What is Flexible Dieting? Here's How to Get Started

The Beginner's Guide to Intermittent Fasting - 2019 Update

A College Guide to Eating Healthy

How to Lean Bulk: The Ultimate Guide

Re-feeds & Macro Cycling: Is Non-linear Dieting Necessary?

Do you need 4 meals per day for maximum growth after all?

Everything You Need to Know About Pre-Workout Nutrition

All About Post-Workout Nutrition

Limit Protein to 20g Per Meal?

Full Guide: Caffeine & Resistance Training

The Science of Binge Drinking: 7 Tips to Get Wasted Without Wasting Your Gains

An Unbiased Look At Artificial Sweeteners

Will a High-Protein Diet Harm Your Health?

The Simple Guide to Healthy Living on a Budget in 2019

How to Stop Binge Eating: The 7 Steps You Need to Follow

Nutrition Labels Are Inaccurate (and the Math Behind Why It Doesn't Matter)

Building Muscle on Keto: What 20 Studies Say (2018 Update)

Fructose: Burying the Boogeyman

CHAPTER 2

Everything You Need to Know About Effective Fat Loss

Fat loss is a controversial field. There are a lot of snake oil salesmen out there who are making it increasingly more challenging to navigate successfully. Whether you want to learn in detail how fat loss works, pull off a long fat loss phase or merely shed a couple of pounds to continue your mass gaining, the resources below will be of tremendous value.

How To Maintain Muscle When Losing Fat

What You Need To Know About Metabolic Adaptation

Leptin, ghrelin, and weight loss. Here's what the research has to say.

Tracking Progress Is Essential – Here's How to Do It Right

Water Retention and Weight Loss: You Can Lose Fat, But Not Weight?

How to Implement Diet Breaks to Get Shredded Lean





Recovery Diet > Reverse Diet

For The Millionth Time, Spot Reduction Is A Myth!!!

Everything You Need to Know About Body Fat Percentage

Individual Differences: The Most Important Consideration For Your Fitness Results That

Science Doesn't Tell You

Coffee and appetite: Does coffee make you more or less hungry?

The Best Fat Loss Article on the Motherfuckin' Internet Is the Motivation to Lose Weight Ruining Your Progress?

Bookmark this: The Mini Cut Manual

The cost of getting lean: Is it really worth the trade-off?

Set Point Theory: Does Your Body Defend Against Fat Loss?

3 Reasons You Shouldn't Use Cheat Meals

The Definitive Guide to Getting Rid of Stubborn Body Fat

Metabolic Damage Isn't Real, but Relative Energy Deficiency Syndrome Is

Hungry While Cutting? 12 Ways to Reduce Hunger on a Diet

How To Build Your Weight Loss Meal Plans And Make Losing Fat Easier On Yourself

CHAPTER 3

How to Train for Maximum Muscle Growth, Aesthetics & Strength

There are lots of ways to train appropriately. There are also a ton of training concepts and ideas. Some effective, some not. The resources below are what I believe to be the essential information you need on training for maximal muscle growth.

Exercise When Sick: Should You Sweat it Out? Or Rest and Recover?

How to Overhead Press with Proper Form: The Definitive Guide

5 Ways To Correct A Muscle Imbalance

YOUR Drug-Free Muscle and Strength Potential: Part 1
YOUR Drug-Free Muscle and Strength Potential: Part 2

Can We Predict Muscle Growth?

The Intermediate Bodybuilding Sample Program

How to Properly Track Your Progress

A Guide to Exercise Selection When You Don't Have Access to a Coach

8 Ways to Finally Make Your Teeny-Tiny Calves Grow

Do You Know The 85% Rule For Maximal Progress

Training to Failure, or Just Training to Fail?

Practical Considerations for Combining Cardio and Lifting





Trap Bar Deadlifts are Underrated

There Is Only One Type Of Periodization – Part 1

There is Only One Type Of Periodization – Part 2

Training for Hypertrophy: The Case Against Muscle Damage

The Science Of Blood Flow Restriction Training

Developing A Mind-Muscle Connection For Muscle Hypertrophy

The Science of Detraining: How Long You Can Take a Break from the Gym Before You Lose

Muscle Mass, Strength, and Endurance

Rest-Pause: Can You Really Build Muscle Faster With This Tip From the Only Bodybuilder to

Ever Beat Arnold Schwarzenegger?

The Drop Set – Scientific Review and Practical Advice

How much volume do you need to get stronger and build muscle?

Training Frequency for Muscle Growth: What the Data Say

Skinny Fat to Fit: The Ultimate Guide to Transforming Your Body

The Ten Rules Of Progressive Overload

The Science of Sore – DOMS explained

More is More

How to Increase Work Capacity

How to Gain Lean Muscle: Everything You Need to Know

HIIT Workouts | The Definitive Guide to High Intensity Interval Training

5 Muscle-Building Mistakes (And How to Make Gains)

10 Reasons Bodybuilders Are Bigger Than Powerlifters

Partial Vs. Full Reps... Or Both?

What Is The Best Time of Day to Work Out? (Does It Matter?)

Training Volume Landmarks For Muscle Growth

CHAPTER 4

The Dedicated Powerlifters' Guide to Maximum Bench, Squat, and Deadlift

Powerlifting is here to stay, and anyone who is up for the challenge can try it and see what they are made of. You'll learn a lot of important things about building raw strength and power to help you bring out the best total you are capable of.

How to Bench: The Definitive Guide How to Squat: The Definitive Guide How to Deadlift: The Definitive Guide

Peaking for Powerlifting





No-Nonsense Periodization for Powerlifting

Concurrent Training for the Powerlifter, Part 1: An Introduction and Background

Concurrent Training for the Powerlifter, Part 2: Physiology & Application

Complete Guide to Cutting Weight Without Sacrificing Strength

Training Frequency for Strength Development: What the Data Say

What I Learned About Injury Rates from Surveying 1,900 Powerlifters

Getting Stronger: How to Break Through Strength Plateaus

The Definitive Guide to Increasing Your Bench Press

High Bar vs. Low Bar Squats for Powerlifting

Deadlift Form: Sumo vs Conventional, Round Back vs Flat Back

14 Ways To Improve Your Deadlift

How to Squat More: How I Went From Squatting 175 pounds to 350+ in 16 Weeks

The Belt Bible

Size vs. Strength: How Important is Muscle Growth For Strength Gains?

Why The Texas Method May Be The Best Intermediate Program

Strength Training Program Design 101: Exercise Selection and Order

Tapering and Peaking: Why and How

The Best Lat Exercises: How to Use Your Lats in the Squat, Bench Press, and Deadlift

Bench Press Bar Path

The Relationship Between Building Muscle and Strength

How Important is Muscular Symmetry for Strength Sports?

Weightlifting Strength Standards

Hamstrings – The Most Overrated Muscle Group for the Squat

Hamstrings: The Most Overrated Muscle for the Squat 2.0

Powerlifting Shoes

How Femur Length Affects Squat Mechanics

A Grip Like a Vice: Grip Strength Training Tips

Best Lifting Belts

How to use Percentages and the RPE Scale

The 9 Best Assistance Exercises for Raw Powerlifting





CHAPTER 5

Learn How to Optimize Your Recovery from Training (for More Gains)

Recovery is just as subtle as nutrition. It doesn't say much, but if you don't pay attention to it, boy can it wreck you. Here are some incredible resources to help you optimize yours for more gains.

The Science of Sleep: A Brief Guide on How to Sleep Better Every Night

Sleep Problems? Here's 21 Tips To Get The Best Sleep Ever

The Science of Autoregulation

Foam Rolling for Recovery

How to Deload: Your Complete Recovery Week Guide

Stress: The Silent Killer (of gains)

Avoiding Cardio Could Be Holding You Back

Am I Overtraining? 7 Warning Signs to Watch Out For

10 Muscle Recovery Tips For Improved Performance

7 Things You May Be Doing That Impair Workout Recovery

10 Proven Ways to Relax Your Muscles and Mind

3 CNS Fatigue Myths

CHAPTER 6

Get Your Mobility and Flexibility On The Next Level

You can't get jacked if your shoulders are jacked up. Or at least, that's what I always tell myself. Having the ability to perform each movement through its full range of motion pain-free is an essential part of long-term progress and longevity.

Fixing Hip Pain During Squats

How to Correctly Treat Piriformis Syndrome

The Best Damn Squat Mobility Article. Period.

4 Ways to Improve Overhead Shoulder Mobility

12 Stretches to Help Relieve Tight Shoulders

Ankle Mobility Exercises to Improve Dorsiflexion

How To Fix Rounded Shoulders

How To Fix a Posterior Pelvic Tilt

How to Fix An Anterior Pelvic Tilt

Tips to Loosen Tight Hamstrings & Improve Hamstring Flexibility

The Perfect Deadlift Warmup





How to Fix Lower Back Pain with Strength Training: Your Complete Guide

Dynamic Stretching Routine: Best Full Body Warm Up

Simple Thoracic Spine Mobility Exercises Everyone Can Perform

Common Squat Injuries: Low Back Pain

Fixing Lateral Hip Pain

How to Improve Hip Mobility

How to Improve Thoracic Spine Mobility

Improving Lat & Pec Flexibility

Bench Press Mobility

12 Wrist Mobility Drills to Do at Work and Before Lifting

Should You Fear Lumbar Flexion?

CHAPTER 7

Learn What Supplements You Should Spend Money On

Supplements are there to supplement an already existing nutritional and training plans. And although I don't like to rely too much on them, there still are those products out there that work.. and some that don't. The resources below look at both.

Citrulline Malate Pre-Workout: Does It Work?

What Is A Proprietary Blend? 5 Reasons Why You Should Avoid Them At All Costs

5 Powerful Vitamin D Benefits That Make It a "Super-Vitamin"

Beta-Alanine Supplements: Your Complete Guide

Should You Supplement With Glutamine?

Do Fat Burners Work? The Definitive, Science-Backed Answer

The HMB Controversy: Better than Steroids?

Do Testosterone-Boosting Supplements Work?

This Is the Definitive Guide to Creatine Monohydrate Supplementation

Protein Shakes For Newbies: What to Buy & When to Drink

Fish Oil - Scientific Review on Usage, Dosage, Side Effects

BCAA Supplements: Why You Don't Need Them

Do Weight Gainer & Mass Gainer Supplements Really Work?

Should you take a multivitamin?

Everything You Need to Know About Pre-Workout Supplements





CHAPTER 8

Learn What Supplements You Should Spend Money On

"Whatever the mind can conceive and believe, the mind can achieve."

-Napoleon Hill

I love this quote and I firmly believe that having the proper mindset is an integral part of being a successful lifter. A 100% appliance to a bad routine will get you better results than half-hearted training on the best, most well-fitting program any good coach can custom tailor for you.

What I Do When I Feel Like Giving Up

10 Ways Your Brain Fucks With Your Fitness Goals

The 3 R's of Habit Change: How To Start New Habits That Actually Stick

The Key for Progress: Recognizing and Overcoming Laziness

How Positive Thinking Builds Your Skills, Boosts Your Health, and Improves Your Work

Unleash Your Inner Superhero

The Akrasia Effect: Why We Don't Follow Through on What We Set Out to Do and What to Do About It

Realistic is Overrated

How to Stick With Good Habits Even When Your Willpower is Gone

Strong Starts in the Mind: The Benefits of Active Imagery for Lifters

5 Common Mental Errors That Sway You From Making Good Decisions

Is the Motivation to Lose Weight Ruining Your Progress?

Motivation: The Scientific Guide on How to Get and Stay Motivated

Embrace the Grind

What Happens When You Believe You're Taking Steroids

Grit: A Complete Guide on Being Mentally Tough

CHAPTER 9

A Gym Newbie? Awesome. Learn Everything You Need to Know for a Great Start on Your Journey

If you are a gym newbie and have no idea what the hell is going on or where to start, I strongly recommend going through the resources below.

New Year's Fitness Goals: 24 Pieces of Advice That Work

The Complete Strength Training Guide

Gym Etiquette 101: Don't Break These 29 Unwritten Rules How Important Is Getting a Pump for Building Muscle?





Are Cheat Reps Beneficial? A Discussion Of The Evidence And Implementation

20 Mainstream Nutrition Myths (Debunked by Science)

Unapologetically Debunking The Top 7 Exercise Myths

5 Fat Loss Myths Busted

How to Start Going to The Gym: A Complete Guide

5 Unforgivable Muscle Building Workout Mistakes Beginners Make

Beginner Gains- Consistency is Key

The Beginner's Guide to Maximum Newbie Gains

Screw the 'Perfect Diet' (This is How You Get Sustained Results)

Clean Bulking vs. Dirty Bulking: Which is Better?

The Myth Of Muscle Confusion

How to Stop Feeling Judged at the Gym: The Psychology of Gym Anxiety

Body Recomposition: What it is and How to do It Effectively

How Heavy Should You Lift? ("Ego Lifting" Vs. Light Weights)

A Realistic Look at Progress: Fat Loss and Mass Gain

On Bodybuilding, Broscience, and Doing Shit Because It Works

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BONUS CHAPTER

The Best Books You Should Read On Training, Nutrition and Psychology

Blog posts are amazing but nothing beats a full-fledged book. The only problem? Finding good books in the sea of information is really hard. Fortunately, I've compiled a tidy list of the best books you should get and read cover to cover.

Training:

Scientific Principles of Strength Training by Dr. Mike Israetel, Dr. James Hoffmann and Chad Wesley Smith

Science and Development of Muscle Hypertrophy by Brad Schoenfeld (or Kindle)

Starting Strength: Basic Barbell Training, 3rd edition by Mark Rippetoe (or Kindle)

Advances in Functional Training: Training Techniques for Coaches, Personal Trainers and Athletes by Michael Boyle (or Kindle)

The Muscle & Strength Pyramid Books (Second Edition) by Dr. Eric Helms, Andrea Valdez and Andy Morgan

Strong & Sculpted by Brad Schoenfeld (or Kindle)

Strong Enough? Thoughts on Thirty Years of Barbell Training by Mark Rippetoe (or Kindle)

Never Let Go: A Philosophy of Lifting, Living and Learning by Dan John (Kindle or Audio) The Art and Science of Lifting by Greg Nuckols and Omar Isuf

Nutrition:

How to Eat, Move and Be Healthy! by Paul Chek

Personal Development & Mindset:

The Subtle Art of Not Giving a F*ck by Mark Manson (Kindle or Audio)

How to Win Friends & Influence People by Dale Carnegie (Kindle or Audio)

The Obstacle Is the Way: The Timeless Art of Turning Trials into Triumph by Ryan Holiday (Kindle or Audio)

The Way of the Superior Man by David Deida (or Kindle)

The Slight Edge: Turning Simple Disciplines into Massive Success and Happiness by Jeff Olson (or Kindle)

Atomic Habits: An Easy & Proven Way to Build Good Habits & Break Bad Ones by James Clear (Kindle or Audio)

Man's Search for Meaning by Viktor E. Frankl (Kindle or Audio)

The ONE Thing: The Surprisingly Simple Truth Behind Extraordinary Results by Gary Keller (Kindle or Audio)

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