



TOP 10 TIPS TO QUIT SMOKING

Counselors from the California Smokers' Helpline provide their top 10 tips to quit for good.

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1. FIND A REASON TO QUIT

Do you want to breathe easier? Be around longer for your family? Save money? Whatever gets you fired up, write it down. A strong reason can get you started. And it will help you stay quit when you're tempted to smoke.

2. MAKE A PLAN

Think about what triggers you to smoke. Is it stress? Being around smokers? Alcohol? Or something else? Plan to get through those times without smoking. Keep your hands busy and your mind off cigarettes. Examples: drink water, wash the dishes, talk to a nonsmoker.

3. CALL 1-800-NO-BUTTS

People who call the Helpline are twice as likely to quit for good. A trained counselor will help you make a personal plan and offer support along the way. It's free, and it works!

4. GET SUPPORT

Research shows that support while quitting can really help. Talk with your family and friends about your plan to quit. Let them know what they can do to help you.

5. USE A QUITTING AID

Quitting aids, like nicotine patches and gum, and other FDA-approved medications are helpful. They can cut withdrawal symptoms and increase your chance of quitting for good. Your health plan or Medi-Cal benefits may cover these products. Talk with your doctor about which quitting aids are right for you.

6. MAKE YOUR HOME & CAR SMOKE-FREE

Having smoke-free areas can help you stop smoking. And your friends and family will enjoy cleaner air and a longer, happier life - with you still in it!

7. SET A QUIT DATE

Choose a date when you will quit. This shows you're serious. And you're more likely to give it a try.

8. QUIT ON YOUR QUIT DATE

Sounds obvious, right? But what good is a quit date unless you actually try to stop smoking? Planning is good - doing is even better.

9. PICTURE BEING A NONSMOKER

After you quit, you have a choice to make. Are you a smoker who's just not smoking for now? Or are you a nonsmoker? For nonsmokers, smoking is not an option in any situation. Choose to see yourself as a nonsmoker.

10. KEEP TRYING

Most people try several times before they quit for good. Slips don't have to turn into relapses - but if they do, remember each time brings you closer to your goal.

If you keep trying, you will succeed!

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