# Consistency

When you are in pain, the most important thing you can do is build **discipline and consistency**.

#### Why It Matters

- Your spine is supported by stabilization muscles (multifidus, transverse abdominis, longissimus, and others).
- These muscles protect your spine, reduce pain, and help prevent injury.
- They are the quickest to weaken and the hardest to rebuild.
- Strengthening them can be learned through physical therapy or with resources your physician provides.

### **How to Stay Consistent**

- Daily Routine Pick the same time every day to exercise.
- Show Up No matter how you feel, go to the gym or dedicate a room at home with no distractions.
- 5-Second Rule (5-4-3-2-1) Count down and take action immediately. Get out of bed, start your stretches, or begin your workout.
- Small Steps Even 5–10 minutes of focused exercise is better than skipping.

#### Goal

Consistency builds strength, stability, and resilience. Over time, this makes it easier to move, work, and enjoy life—even when you have pain.

## **Weekly Consistency Tracker**

Day	Completed?
Monday	
Tuesday	
Wednesday	
Thursday	
Friday	
Saturday	

Sunday	
1	<u> </u>