# THE IMPORTANCE OF ERGONOMICS IN YOUR WORK ENVIRONMENT

When using your body in ways that prevent injury and maximize efficiency during movement or physical tasks, proper body mechanics will:

- Reduce stress on muscles & joints
- Prevent injuries like back pain or strains
- Improve posture & movement efficiency

# KEY PRINCIPLES OF PROPER BODY MECHANICS

- Maintain a Neutral Spine: Keep your back straight & natural curves aligned; Avoid slouching or over-arching your back.
- Engage Your Core: Activate your abdominal muscles for stability.
- Lift with Your Legs: Bend at the knees & hips, not the waist; Keep the load close to your body.





- Avoid Twisting: Turn your whole body instead of twisting at the waist.
- Keep a Stable Base: Stand with feet shoulder-width apart for balance.
- Use Tools or Assistance: Use carts,
  dollies or ask for help when lifting heavy objects.

**COMMON MISTAKES** 

#### SITTING:

Use an ergonomic chair; Keep your feet flat on the floor; Align your hips, knees & shoulders.

#### **STANDING**

Distribute weight evenly between both feet; Avoid locking your knees.

#### **REACHING:**

Use a step stool instead of overextending your arms.

#### **SLEEPING**:

Use a pillow to support your neck; Sleep on your back or side, not your stomach.

I stand up straight

#### LIFTING

TO AVOID

with your back instead of your legs

#### HOLDING

objects far from your body

### HUNCHING

shoulders while sitting or standing

## WEARING

unsupportive footwear

Proper posture can BOOST confidence & mood?

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