

EMOTIONAL HUNGER

10 Flooded

- **9** Very Emotionally Full: Intense physical discomfort; nausea, chest constriction
- **8 Emotionally Full:** Moderately overwhelmed, physical discomfort, urge to withdraw socially
- **7** Satisfied: Emotionally content.
- **6 Neutral**: Emotionally balanced. You're in control of your emotions.
- 5 Slightly Emotionally Hungry: Mindful of emotions, desiring support or connection.
- **4 Emotionally Hungry:** Emotional unease; searching for relief.
- 3 Very Emotionally Hungry: Significantly affected, seeking ways to soothe or numb emotions.
- Desperate: Actively seeking comfort or distraction.
- **Overwhelmed:** Completely consumed by emotions. Difficult to focus on anything else.

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DIFFERENTIATE BETWEEN PHYSICAL AND EMOTIONAL HUNGER WITH THIS EXERCISE:

Find a Quiet Space: Begin by finding a quiet and comfortable place where you can sit or lie down without distractions.

Breathe Deeply: Close your eyes and take several deep breaths. Inhale slowly through your nose, hold for a few seconds, and exhale slowly through your mouth

Body Scan: Start a mental scan of your body from head to toe. Notice any physical sensations, such as tension, discomfort, or relaxation. Acknowledge any areas of physical hunger.

Acknowledge Emotional State: Shift your focus to your emotional state. Ask yourself, "What emotions am I feeling right now?". Try to label these emotions as precisely as possible.

Differentiate Hunger Types: Reflect on whether your desire to eat comes from physical hunger cues, like a growling stomach, or emotional cues, such as feeling stressed or lonely.

Proceed Mindfully: Decide how to respond to your hunger. If it's physical hunger, mindfully choose food. If it's emotional, consider other ways to address those feelings, such as talking to a friend, journaling, getting a hug, allowing yourself to cry, or engaging in a hobby.

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PHYSICAL HUNGER

- **Stuffed:** Beyond "Thanksgiving full."
- **9 Very Full:** Quite full, very uncomfortable.
- **8** Full: Full, but not stuffed.
- **7 Satisfied:** Content, but not overly full; Not hungry.
- **Neutral:** Neither hungry nor full, comfortable and satisfied.
- 5 Slightly Hungry: Slight sensation of hunger, not urgent.
- 4 Hungry: Moderately hungry, could eat a decent meal without feeling overly full.
- Very Hungry: Quite hungry, and stomach is noticeably empty.
- Ravenous: Hunger is intense, can't focus on anything else. Energy levels are very low.
- **Empty:** Extremely hungry, stomach is growling. You may feel weak and lightheaded.

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