

Amanda's Top 22 Tips for When a Craving Hits

- 1. Take five long, slow, deep breaths.
- 2. Get a hug from a friend or loved one.
- 3. When a craving hits, have a glass of water and then wait ten minutes.
- 4. Add a healthier version of what you crave into your life. For example, if you crave sweets, try eating more fruit or sweet root vegetables like carrots or beets.
- 5. What is out of balance in your life? Is there something you need to express, something being repressed? What happened in your life just before you had this craving?
- 6. When you eat the food you are craving, enjoy it, taste it, savor it; notice its effects. Then you can be aware and freer to decide if you really want it next time.
- 7. Destroy the food; throw it away or put in the garbage disposal.
- 8. Go outdoors and walk around the block.
- 9. Exercise! Move your body, dance, yoga, run, walk, feel your body.
- **10.** Love your body. Use affirmations like "I love myself," "I am lovable," "I approve of myself" and "I am light."
- 11. Write in a journal or notebook. Ask yourself these questions: "What am I really hungry for?", "Will this food satisfy me?" and "What is really bothering me?"
- 12. Hold a clear vision in your mind and heart of what you truly desire for yourself. For example, if you want a certain body shape imagine your body that way or get a picture of a body you would like to resemble.
- 13. Surround yourself with support and love.
- 14. Play some music that you love! Dance and laugh!
- 15. Take a hot bath with lavender essential oil and Epsom salts.
- **16.** Give yourself a hot towel scrub.
- 17. Take a nap or lie down and relax.
- 18. Read an inspiring book.
- 19. Pet your cat or dog. Or hug a teddy bear.
- **20.** Understand that cravings are your body's way of communicating with you. There is nothing wrong with you. Listen and learn from your cravings.
- **21.** Write out daily intentions. For example, "I intend to eat healthfully today" or "I intend to avoid sugar and processed foods today."
- 22. Have faith! Don't give up. Trust the process and know that you have the power to heal yourself.