

BEST RESOURCES ONLINE



7 Small Things That Help Senior Memory & Brain Health

A free, plain-English guide. Seven evidence-informed habits for memory and mental clarity after 55 — no hype, no miracle claims.

If you've been noticing more forgotten names, lost keys, or that "the word is right on the tip of my tongue" feeling, you're not imagining it — and you're not alone. Memory changes are a common part of getting older. The good news: there are everyday things that genuinely support brain health. This short guide collects seven of the most practical, evidence-informed ones. None of them are miracles. All of them are doable.



Get this guide — free PDF, straight to your inbox

Enter your email and we'll send you the full "7 Small Things" memory & brain health guide as a handy PDF, plus occasional helpful tips for healthy aging after 55. No spam — unsubscribe anytime.

Email address

Send me the free guide

We only use your email to send the guide and occasional updates. Planning to read it now? Scroll on — everything is right on this page.

1. Sleep is when your brain does its housekeeping

During deep sleep, your brain clears out metabolic waste and consolidates what you learned that day into memory. Most adults need about 7 to 9 hours. If you struggle with sleep, protect it like a habit: same bedtime, cool dark bedroom, no screens for the

last hour, and cut caffeine after mid-afternoon. Poor sleep is one of the fastest, most reversible drains on memory.

2. Move your body most days

Physical activity is one of the most consistently supported ways to protect brain health. Even a brisk 30-minute daily walk increases blood flow to the brain and supports the growth of new neural connections. You don't need an expensive gym — walking, gardening, swimming, or chair exercises all count. The key is regularity over intensity.

3. Stay socially connected

Conversation, laughter, and shared activity are real exercise for the brain. People who stay socially engaged tend to retain memory better as they age. Join a club, volunteer, call a friend, or join a local seniors group. If mobility is an issue, a regular phone or video call with a family member counts too.

4. Challenge your brain in new ways

The brain thrives on novelty — doing something you haven't done before. Learn a new hobby, try crosswords or sudoku (fun more than essential), take up a language app, read books outside your usual genre, or play a strategy game. The point is novelty and effort, not solving the same easy puzzle on repeat.

5. Eat for your brain — the basics

A broadly heart-healthy pattern is also broadly brain-healthy. Think vegetables, fruit, whole grains, fish, nuts, and olive oil (the Mediterranean pattern has the strongest research). Stay hydrated and limit excess sugar and processed foods. Many people over 55 consider a supplement for extra support — that's reasonable, but as an addition to real food, not a replacement for it.

6. Handle stress and keep your blood pressure in check

Chronic stress and high blood pressure both take a toll on memory and blood vessels. Learn a simple daily practice that calms you — deep breathing, prayer, a quiet walk, meditation — and get blood pressure checked regularly. Managing it matters as much as any pill, because high blood pressure is a genuine, controllable risk factor for cognitive decline.

7. Start the conversation with your doctor early

If memory worry is new, growing, or affecting daily life, bring it up with your doctor — earlier, not later. A doctor can rule out reversible causes (medication side effects, thyroid, vitamin B12, sleep apnea, depression) that are sometimes mistaken for

dementia. If you're thinking about a memory supplement, this is also the right moment to ask, because some ingredients can interact with medication.

Quick Facts

BEST SLEEP	≈7-9 hrs; deep sleep clears brain waste
BEST EXERCISE	~30 min brisk daily — walking counts
BEST DIET	Mediterranean-style: veg, fruit, fish, olive oil
KEY HEALTH CHECKS	Blood pressure, blood sugar, B12, thyroid, sleep
BIGGEST CAUTION	Clear any supplement with a doctor if you take medication

These are general health habits, not medical advice. For personalized guidance, talk to your own doctor.

What about a memory supplement?

Many people over 55 want to add a structured daily formula on top of these habits. A well-made supplement can be a reasonable, low-risk extra — but treat it as a complement to sleep, movement, and diet, not a shortcut past them. If you'd like an independent breakdown of a popular memory supplement's ingredients and claims, we've written a full honest review you can read here.

[Read the full Phytomem One review »](#)

Sources & Further Reading

- [Neuroplasticity — how the brain adapts \(Wikipedia\)](#)
- [Memory and aging \(Wikipedia\)](#)
- [Phytomem One — independent review](#)