

# **COVER** story

### **♦** Build up your ankles

Jane's favorite exercise is walking. "It's a great way to feel alive." But to walk, you need strong ankles—"They help you stay steady on your feet." And this exercise will do the trick: Sit in a chair and lift a leg about 12 inches. Make a circle with your foot in a clockwise motion; repeat five times, then repeat in a counterclockwise motion. Repeat with the other foot.

#### **♦** Better your balance

Even Jane has trouble with this one—"It's tough to do!" So don't be hard on yourself if you're struggling at first. Stand next to a chair (that's so you can grab onto it if you start to topple). Keeping your arms at your sides, lift the leg closest to the chair off the floor and try to stand on the other leg for 15 seconds. Then walk to the other side of the chair and repeat with the other lea.

#### ◆ Max out your leg muscles

Stand behind a chair, hold onto its back, then lift your right leg behind you (as if forming an "L" with your thigh and lower leg). Hold for five seconds, then lower. Do 12 reps, making sure to stand straight and stay stable. Repeat on left side.

## **♦** All-over strengthener

Sit in a chair, feet on the floor and a 2-pound dumbbell in each hand, hands facing up. Inhale. As you exhale, bend your elbows to lift dumbbells toward your shoul-

ders, while lifting and straightening your right

leg. "Squeeze your thighs to tone your legs while you're working your arms," Jane says. Exhale and lower your leg and hands. Do 12 with your right leg, then switch to your left.

#### **♦** Upper arm firmer

stay healthy," 
Want to go sleeveless with confidence? Try this jiggle eraser: Sit in a chair, holding a 2-pound dumbbell in each hand. Raise both arms

straight over your head and lower your arms (bending at the elbow) to bring the dumbbells down to your shoulders while you inhale. Exhale as you raise your hands back to their starting position. Repeat 12 times.

#### **♦** Shoulder toner

"It'simportant

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buildstrength

in order to

Stand with feet hip distance apart. Hold dumbbells and inhale as you raise arms out to the side. "Keep your posture straight," says Jane. Exhale and lower arms back to your sides. Repeat 12 times. 🐧

-Gina Roberts-Grey

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