

## THE BIG SQUEEZE

## **Measuring Your Waist Circumference**

Make sure to take the measurement at the *end* of expiration (after you have exhaled), when the diaphragm is in its neutral position. Use a "spring loaded tape measure" if you have one, to provide a constant tension for consistency with all measurements. A regular cloth, non-stretch tape measure will also work.

- 1. Locate the lowest point of the last rib and the crest of the ilium (top of the hip bone).
- 2. With a tape measure, find the midpoint of those two locations.
- 3. Hold the end of the tape measure over the midpoint and wrap it around your body (Measure around as little clothing as you are comfortable with)
  - a) NOTE: Check that the tape is horizontal across the back and front.
- 4. Be sure to:
  - a) Stand with your feet together.
  - b) If someone else is helping you, which is advised, have them complete the steps above while you place your arms at your side with the palms facing inwards.
  - c) Breathe out gently.
- 5. Measure waist circumference and read the measurement at the level of the tape to the nearest 0.1 inch.
- 6. Record the measurement.

Target Waist Circumference	
Women	<35 inches
Men	<40 inches

