

What Is Camel Pose?

Camel Pose, or *Ustrasana*, is a kneeling backbend in yoga. It stretches the front body, opens the chest, and strengthens the spine. The name comes from Sanskrit—*ustra* means camel and *asana* means pose.

Benefits

- Improves posture by countering slouching
- Stretches shoulders, chest, and hip flexors
 - Boosts energy and mood
 - · Builds spinal flexibility

Precautions

Avoid if you have:

- Severe back or neck issues
- · High blood pressure or migraines
- Knee injuries (unless well supported with padding)

Warm-Up

Before trying Camel Pose, loosen the spine and shoulders with Cat–Cow, low lunges, and gentle chest openers.

How To Do Camel Pose (Step-by-Step)

- 1. Kneel with knees hip-width apart.
- 2. Place hands on your lower back, fingers pointing down.
 - 3. Inhale, lift your chest, and lengthen your spine.
 - 4. Begin to lean back, keeping thighs vertical.
 - 5. Option A: Keep hands on your back.
 - 6. Option B: Place hands on blocks beside ankles.
- 7. Option C: Place hands on heels (toes tucked makes this easier).
- 8. Keep chest lifted, core engaged and avoid collapsing the lower back.
- 9. Choose head position—neutral if sensitive or drop back gently.
- 10. To exit, bring hands to hips, lead with chest, and rise slowly.

Counterposes

After Camel Pose, balance your spine with Child's Pose, a gentle twist, or a seated forward fold.

Camel Pose is a powerful heart-opener and energizing yoga posture. With proper warm-up, mindful alignment, and safe

variations, you can enjoy its physical and emotional benefits without strain.