

# Printable Version

**Reworded prompts for safer, clearer communication with neurodivergent clients.**

## NEURODIVERGENCE-INFORMED INTAKE PROMPTS

THESE MODIFIED INTAKE PROMPTS ARE DESIGNED TO REDUCE MISINTERPRETATION, MINIMIZE OVERWHELM, AND FOSTER CLEARER, SAFER COMMUNICATION WITH NEURODIVERGENT CLIENTS.

### SENSORY EXPERIENCE

- STANDARD QUESTION: "DO YOU HAVE ANY SENSORY ISSUES?"
- NEURODIVERGENCE-INFORMED PROMPT: "ARE THERE CERTAIN SOUNDS, LIGHTS, OR TEXTURES THAT HELP YOU FEEL CALM—OR MAKE THINGS HARDER?"

### COMMUNICATION STYLE

- STANDARD QUESTION: "HOW DO YOU USUALLY COMMUNICATE?"
- NEURODIVERGENCE-INFORMED PROMPT: "WHAT HELPS YOU FEEL MOST UNDERSTOOD—TALKING OUT LOUD, WRITING THINGS DOWN, OR HAVING TIME TO THINK BEFORE RESPONDING?"

### EMOTIONAL REGULATION

- STANDARD QUESTION: "DO YOU STRUGGLE WITH MANAGING EMOTIONS?"
- NEURODIVERGENCE-INFORMED PROMPT: "WHEN YOU'RE OVERWHELMED OR SHUT DOWN, WHAT USUALLY HELPS YOU FEEL MORE IN CONTROL?"

### SOCIAL INTERACTIONS

- STANDARD QUESTION: "DO YOU HAVE SUPPORTIVE RELATIONSHIPS?"
- NEURODIVERGENCE-INFORMED PROMPT: "DO YOU PREFER SPENDING TIME WITH OTHERS OR ALONE? WHAT MAKES SOCIAL SETTINGS MORE COMFORTABLE FOR YOU?"

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### DAILY FUNCTIONING

- STANDARD QUESTION: "DO YOU HAVE TROUBLE WITH DAILY TASKS?"
- NEURODIVERGENCE-INFORMED PROMPT: "ARE THERE ROUTINES OR TASKS THAT FEEL EXHAUSTING, FRUSTRATING, OR EASY TO FORGET? WHAT HELPS YOU STAY ON TRACK?"

### THERAPY EXPECTATIONS

- STANDARD QUESTION: "WHAT ARE YOUR GOALS FOR THERAPY?"
- NEURODIVERGENCE-INFORMED PROMPT: "WHAT WOULD MAKE THIS SPACE FEEL USEFUL OR SAFE? ARE THERE THINGS YOU WISH THERAPISTS UNDERSTOOD ABOUT HOW YOU PROCESS OR EXPERIENCE THE WORLD?"

USE THE SPACE BELOW TO DOCUMENT CLIENT PREFERENCES, AREAS OF UNCERTAINTY, LANGUAGE PREFERENCES, OR ANY ADAPTATIONS MADE DURING INTAKE. SEE EXAMPLES BELOW.

- WERE ANY QUESTIONS REWORDED FOR CLARITY?
- DID THE CLIENT SHOW DISTRESS OR CONFUSION WITH CERTAIN PROMPTS?
- WHAT ACCOMMODATIONS DID THE CLIENT REQUEST OR SEEM TO BENEFIT FROM?
- WERE THERE NONVERBAL CUES WORTH NOTING?

### CLINICIAN NOTES & OBSERVATIONS

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