## Conquering Avoidant Tendencies Worksheet

### What is Avoidance?

Avoidance is when we try to escape situations, thoughts, or feelings that make us uncomfortable or anxious. While it might feel like a quick relief, it often makes things harder in the long run.

### **Identify your Avoidance Patterns**

Think about areas in your life where you tend to avoid things, your initial thoughts around the situation, and the short and long-term effects of avoidance.

Situation	Initial Thoughts	<b>Short-Term Effect</b>	Long- Term Effect
Invited to a social event which I avoid	No one will like or speak to me at this event	Reduced anxiety	isolation and loneliness

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## **Build Coping Strategies**

It's helpful to have strategies and an action plan to manage anxiety or discomfort when facing situations you avoid.

Create a list of situations you avoid, ranking them from least (1) to most difficult(10). Start with the easiest and plan how you will face it.

Difficulty (1-10)	Situation	Coping Strategies/Action Plan