

Best Tips and Practices for Math

Read the online lesson completely and take notes

Include keywords, examples, and formulas. While the information may seem to make sense, the extra step of writing it down will make it more memorable. Be sure to note the objectives for the lesson. Utilize student guides and all activities.

Practice all the problems in the assigned problem set

In general students need a lot of practice to remember a skill. Doing enough to feel comfortable at the time does not yield well in mastering the concept and showing proficiency when it appears again weeks or months later.

Show all work

While concepts and skills may just contain a few steps now, eventually the material will require so many steps that doing problems in your head will not be possible. Now is the time to start the good practice of writing down your steps so you can see where you are in the problem and know where you are heading. Also, writing down the steps helps to again make the process more memorable.

Ask Questions

Don't put off the questions that you have. They build up and lead to frustration. Ask your learning coach or teacher as you come across questions to keep moving forward and feel success. Be sure to save contact information to access quickly.

Discuss the Concepts

Talking about what you are learning is a key element to learning. Have a discussion with your learning coach and come to the online chats to get a chance to hear what others have learned and to share what you have learned as well.

Review

Take time to bring back concepts that are a little rusty instead of always soaring ahead. A typical time to do this is at the end of a unit, semester or year. Take time to reflect and recall. Remember that just because you could do a skill after seeing several examples may not mean you can show mastery of it out of the blue. Take the time to see what you can still do.

Online Quizzes and Tests

For some reason there is a tendency to not work out problems on pencil and paper for an online quiz or test. Online does not mean mental math. While you may be reading the problem on the computer instead of a paper where you are also to show your work, you should still be writing out the problem and solving on paper it just as if the teacher were looking at every step. Go slow, check your work, and read the question one more time before answering to ensure that you are answering the question asked. If the question is multiple choice, be sure to read all choices before answering. Save your answers periodically so that you do not lose your work. Once the test is taken, be sure to review to learn from any mistakes.