

Study Tips for Math

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**STRATEGIES
FOR
SUCCESS**

A) Study Tips for Math In Class

Review yesterday's notes before class: In the minutes before class starts, look over notes from yesterday. Determine if there are any sample problems or concepts you should ask about.

Ask for help when you need it: Ask your teacher to solve sample problems. That's a teacher's job! Don't let a topic go by if you don't get it. Don't be shy.

Draw anything the teacher draws: If the teacher makes a drawing on the board, you should always copy it. Even if you don't think it's important at the time or you don't understand it at the time. You will!

B) Study Tips for Math at Home

Study actively: Don't just work out a problem. Draw pictures and diagrams of a process and make up stories to go along with them. If you are an auditory learner you may want to make brief recordings of yourself defining some terms or processes.

Make flashcards for terms: Flashcards are good for visual and tactile learners. They reinforce information as you see it and as you create it with your own hand.

Take breaks: If you come across a problem that you don't understand, read it over a few times and try—but then walk away from it and make a sandwich or do some other small task (not other homework). Your brain will continue to work on the problem subconsciously.

C) Study Tips for Math Tests

Review old tests: Old tests are the best clues to future tests. They are good for establishing a strong foundation for the newer information, but also provide insight as to how the teacher thinks.

Practice neatness: How unfortunate would it be to miss a test question out of sloppiness? It's important to make sure you can line up problems neatly so you don't confuse yourself, and also to make sure you can tell your sevens from your ones.

Find a study partner: You've heard it before, but it's worth repeating. A study partner can test you and help you understand things you can't get on your own.

Understand the process: You sometimes hear that it doesn't matter how you come up with the right answer, just as long as you get there. This is not always true. You should always strive to understand an equation or a process.

Is it logical?: As you work out a story problem, always give your answer the logic test. For example, if you are asked to find the speed of a car traveling between two distances, you are probably in trouble if your answer is 750 mph. Apply the logic test as you study so you don't repeat a faulty process during your test!