

HOW TO STUDY MATHS

The most important thing: TO DO THE BEST YOU CAN (of course it should apply to anything you do in your life)

Why don't you get good marks in maths?

- Bad study habits?
- Inefficient study habits, waste time?
- Don't spend enough time?

THREE MAIN IDEAS:

1.- You must be actively involved in the learning process:

- Attend class and pay attention.
- Take a good set of notes.
- Work homework exercises.
- Study on a regular schedule, from the first day, not just before the exams.

2.- You must understand the principles: not only the formulas, but how to use them.

3.- Mathematics is cumulative: what you do in class, depends on subjects or sections that you previously had to learn.

TIPS FOR STUDYING MATHEMATICS

- Go to class.
- Listen during class. Sometimes, important ideas are not written down on the blackboard.
- Pay attention to what the teacher emphasizes or remarks, and make note of it, it's important.
- Take good notes (so, you need to be able to listen while you are writing down. It can be difficult at the beginning, but it's something that one gains with practice).
- Ask good questions, specific, not general questions.
- Listen when others ask questions.
- Revise notes after class. Complete things you didn't have the time to note or you didn't understand at class.
- Revise your notes regularly, not only before the exam.
- Make a list of important concepts and formulas.
- Make note of any common errors that the teacher have mentioned.
- Learn the proper notation.
- Be organized.
- Do homework after each class, as soon as possible after the class, when it's still fresh in your mind.
- Do homework without notes or book after the first few homework problems.
- Do more homework.
- Rework exercises.
- Budget enough time to do your homework.
- Practice, practice, practice.
- Persevere: after a little work, a topic that you initially didn't understand, suddenly makes sense.
- Keep old homework.
- Don't forget your textbook.
- Ask for help if you need it, don't wait until the last minute.
- Keep the attempts you've made on a problem.

- Show all of your work, not only the answer.
- Check your work.
- Read and follow the directions for your homework and problems:
 - Read the problem to get an idea of what you're being asked to do
 - Read the problem again, making notes of
 - what you are given and
 - what you need to find.
 - Devise a plan: try to figure out what you are going to need to solve the problem
 - If you can't, try to find a similar problem that is simpler
 - Check your solution
- Take a practice exam

REMEMBER: ALWAYS DO THE BEST YOU CAN, NOT JUST ENOUGH TO GET BY

QUESTIONS:

- 1.- Do you think you do enough to learn maths?
- 2.- What do you think about these tips?
- 3.- Write down five things that you already do.
- 4.- Write down five tips that you could follow to improve the way you study maths.