

Test Taking Tips

Before the Test

- Stay on top of every assignment
- Studying in groups is often helpful
- Write down any hints or answers your professor gives during class so you can review it
- Review homework assignments/exams and take practice exam
- Practice the most important things first, don't leave them to the end
- Repetition is vital in math so do important problems that you struggle with over and over until you have it 100% learned
- Work on practice problems for each topic covered, ranging in level of difficulty
- While practicing, mix up questions that use different formulas so you can learn when to use which formula
- Make a sheet with all the formulas you need to know and then memorize them from the sheet
- Avoid negative thinking - HAVE CONFIDENCE
- RELAX the night before
- Have a good meal before the test

During the Test

- Write down memorized equations on the front of the test right when the test is given to you
- Look over the entire test before beginning in order to get a sense of how many problems and what types of problems there will be
- Work on the problems you know first and come back to the harder ones
- Don't spend too long on one problem
- Look for "key" words in the question to make sure you answer it correctly
- Read each set of directions carefully so that you do the problem the right way
- Check that you have correctly re-written the problem
- If you don't know how to answer a question just start writing down possibilities - by starting to try the problem it is more likely that you will remember how to do it
- Show all your work
- Write legibly
- Make an estimate for what the answer should be - for example, 48×12 should be a little above 480 (because that is 48×10), but if you get an answer below 480 or far above it then you will know you did something wrong
- If you're completely stuck and you think the answer is wrong, remember there is partial credit
- If you start to panic then put the pencil down, breath deep, and relax before continuing
- Look up every now and then during the test – this will help you remain calm, and looking up will actually help you remember information
- Check over your test for errors when you are done – if you have time, redo the problem on a separate piece of paper to make sure you get the same answer that you did the first time

After the Test

- Continue to remain calm
- Check for any errors when you get the test returned
- Do a test correction
- CELEBRATE!