

Study Skills

How to Avoid Homework

If you put into action some of these strategies, you will reduce the time you spend doing homework. You're not likely to escape homework. Homework is a fact of life for those who make school a successful experience. But you can significantly reduce the amount of homework you have to do and ensure that time is better spent.

Assess each teacher

Ask the teacher or ask fellow students what are the teacher's strengths? What kind of work does he or she assign and what sorts of assignments really count? How much does homework count? Quizzes? Projects? Tests? When in the week does the teacher usually assign work?

Establish Routines

If at all possible, study at the same time and in the same place daily. Whether you have assigned homework or not, preserve that time as quiet time. If you haven't got homework, research study skills, review or read for pleasure. Study important learning during day light hours.

Use your Planner

Write in appointments, meetings, practices, etc. Your time is important. Always record assignments as soon as they are given.

Don't trust your memory. Chunk down larger jobs into tasks and write in deadlines for those tasks. Consult your planner often throughout the day.

Know where you stand

Keep all notes, assignments, handouts, test, etc. Keep it all dated and in order. Keep a list of grades for all assignments. Keep your binder neat.

Visit recent learning

A few minutes of review time immediately after a lesson will save hours later that night. Memory degrades very quickly in the first few hours. Always use study time if it is given at the end of class. Use time between classes, use lunch and use time on the bus for five minute reviews.

Ask questions and ask for help

Clarify instructions & restate what you've been asked to do. If you don't

understand something, reassure yourself that confusion is a part of learning. Knowing you don't understand is far better than not knowing you don't understand. Form questions after you've studied and write them in your planner or on your assignment.

Make flash cards of things you think will be on tests as you come to them. Definitions, terms, vocabulary, formulas and important dates—keep these handy. Recite the answers out loud often.

Form a study group for major tests.

Study

Make it your business to research and learn new methods of study. Become a study expert.

