



Note Taking Tips for Different Learning Styles

You have just brought home a box containing a piece of flat pack furniture. A friend or family member is with you and it's necessary to put the furniture together quickly. Would you....

- Ask the other person to read out the instructions to you, while you put the piece together?
- Read through the instructions yourself, looking at the diagrams to see how the pieces fit?
- Throw the instructions to one side and just start?

There is no correct answer here.

If you asked your friend to read the instructions to you, then you can class yourself as one of the auditory learners. You learn best by listening.

Study tips for auditory learners

- Record lectures, classes, instructions or your own written notes to play back later, perhaps in the car while you are travelling
- Study with a friend, who can read out the information to you
- Try out voice recognition software to read a passage into your computer. Reading it out loud in this manner will help to set it into your memory
- Ask questions until you have an understanding of the material being presented.
- Try making up silly rhymes, or jingles, to help you recall information.
- When you come across new words, sound them out, syllable by syllable. Hearing them will help you to recognize them next time.
- Set a timer when you are studying, so that you don't lose track of time.
- If you read the instructions yourself, then you are probably a visual learner. You learn best by seeing.

Study tips for visual learners

- Underlining important words in text
- Highlighting words and phrases that you want to remember in a text
- Using color codes to organize your notes
- Watch videos that show how something is done
- Use a system of symbols in your notes
- A picture is worth a thousand words - as the saying goes. Seriously, sketch or paste in photographs or pictures that illustrate a point
- Learn how to mind map and structure information in a visual way



- Utilize graphs, graphic organizers or Venn diagrams so that information is laid out in an easy to understand manner
- And those of you, who went straight in and worked out what to do without needing the instructions at all, are probably tactile or kinesthetic learners. You learn best by using your hands, or by actually doing something physical.

Study tips for kinesthetic learners

- Read text out loud and record it. Then play it back to yourself while out for a walk.
- You might find the action of chewing gum while doing a static job will be enough movement to help you concentrate.
- Doing something with your hands while studying can help. Why not try playing with a yo-yo? Or squeezing a stress ball?
- If you are studying with friends, why not use role play to "act out" a story or passage that you need to read. Remembering the actions you took, will bring the plot back to mind later in class or at work.
- Rather than just underlining or highlighting important words in a text, why not use different colored pens to color code the points?
- Write important things to remember on index cards, and shuffle them around, laying them out in different ways on the desk. The act of physically moving the cards will help to cement the ideas written on them into your memory.