

## How to Study for a Math Test or Quiz

1. Use your assignment sheet to note the sections (and textbook page numbers) that will be covered on the test.
2. Find the lecture notes and homework papers that correspond to the sections that will be covered on the test. If you use flash cards, find those as well.
3. Study one **section at a time!** Do the following for each section.

Step 1: Read the lecture notes for the section. Look at points that were emphasized (you should have marked these with a star or arrow).

Step 2: Look at example problems in the lecture notes. Cover up the solution with a piece of paper and try to solve the problem on your own. Check your answer against the solution in your notes. Be sure to pay attention to both the final answer and the format that I used in the notes as well (WISE method, proof format, etc.). Find any mistakes that you've made and then redo the problem until you get the correct solution and format without looking at your notes.

Step 3: Next read the section in the textbook. Look at sample problems in the book. Cover the solutions and go through the same process that you used with the sample problems in the lecture notes (see step 2 above).

Step 4: Look over the homework assignment(s) that goes with the section you are reviewing. Pick 5–10 problems and do them without looking at your solutions. Be sure you do **all of the problems that you missed** the first time that you did the assignment (see the note below). Check your answer against the solution on your homework paper to make sure you used the proper steps.

Note: You need to do your daily homework in such a way that your paper becomes a useful study tool. You can do this by showing all of your work in a step-by-step fashion. Also, as I go over each daily assignment, you should take a pen and circle all problems that you missed and then write in the correct solutions as I show them.

4. After you have reviewed all of the sections using the 4 steps above, you should make up a quiz for yourself using the lecture note examples, the sample problems in the book and the homework problems. Be sure to include only those problems for which you have a **complete step-by-step solution**. Check your answers against the correct solutions. Save these "self-quizzes" in your notebook. You can use them to study for the final exam!
5. Write down any questions you still have and bring them to me during class or tutorial at least one day before the test or quiz. ***THIS PROCESS TAKES TIME!***  
You need to start studying at least 3–4 days before a chapter test and 2–3 days before a quiz. Do one or two sections per night as outlined above and you'll find your job less overwhelming. If you use this method for preparing for a test, you will find yourself doing 'A' and 'B' work. Remember – doing your homework and studying for math tests and quizzes is not as scary when you work with a friend! You can also take each other's "self-quizzes" for extra practice. ***Good luck - you can do it!***