

Math Study Skills Inventory

Rate your achievement of the following statements by placing a **3** for **almost always**, **2** for **sometimes**, and **1** for **almost never**. If you have **never** even thought about doing what the statement says, put a **0**.

Selecting a math class

- _____ 1. I schedule my math class at a time when I am mentally sharp.
- _____ 2. When I register for a math class, I choose the best instructor for me.
- _____ 3. If I have a choice, I select a math class that meets three or four days a week instead of one or two.
- _____ 4. I schedule the next math class as soon as possible after I have completed the current course.
- _____ 5. I am sure that I have signed up for the correct level math course.

Time and place for studying math

- _____ 6. I study math everyday.
- _____ 7. I try to do my math homework immediately after math class.
- _____ 8. I have a specific time to study math.
- _____ 9. I have a specific place with few distractions to study math.
- _____ 10. I do my math homework in the lab where I can get help.
- _____ 11. I am careful to keep up to date with my math homework.
- _____ 12. I study math at least 8 to 10 hours a week.

Study strategies for math class

- _____ 13. I read my textbook before I come to class.
- _____ 14. If I have trouble understanding the text, I ask my instructor or a lab tutor for help.
- _____ 15. I take notes in math class.
- _____ 16. I am careful to copy all the steps of math problems in my notes.
- _____ 17. I ask questions when I am confused.
- _____ 18. I go to the instructor or lab when I am confused.
- _____ 19. I try to determine exactly when I got confused and exactly what confused me.
- _____ 20. I review my notes and text before beginning homework.
- _____ 21. I work problems until I understand them, not just until I get the right answer for homework.
- _____ 22. I use flashcards for formulas and vocabulary.
- _____ 23. I develop memory techniques to remember math concepts.

Math tests

- _____ 24. I preview the test before I begin.
- _____ 25. Before I begin the test, I make notes on things such as formulas that I might need.
- _____ 26. I begin with the easy questions first.
- _____ 27. I take the full amount of time allotted for the test.
- _____ 28. I carefully check or rework as many problems as I have time to before I turn in my test.
- _____ 29. When tests are returned, I keep a log of the types of mistakes I make on tests: concept errors, application errors, or careless errors.
- _____ 30. I keep up to date so that I don't have to cram the night before a test.

Anxiety

- _____ 31. I believe that I can succeed in math class.
_____ 32. I have study partners in my math class.
_____ 33. I take practice tests.
_____ 34. I know several good relaxation techniques.

_____ **TOTAL SCORE**

Scoring

Total the scores from all 34 statements.

- If your score is 90 – 103, give yourself an A. You are using the study skills you need in order to be successful in math.
- If your score is 80 – 89, give yourself a B. You are using good math study skills. Choose a few strategies to work on each day, and you are well on your way to an A.
- If your score is 70 – 79, give yourself a C. Your study skills are average. If you want an A, choose one or two strategies in each category to work on until you are using most of the strategies described above.
- If your score is below 70, you are probably having a difficult time in math class. Math may not be your trouble! More than likely, your main problem is the study strategies you are using (or not using). Make yourself do the things on the list above.

The information in this inventory can be found on page 117 of The Study Skills Workbook, third edition, by Dr. Carolyn H. Hopper.