



## Tips on How to Succeed in a Math Class

### Yes, You Can Learn Math!!!

#### 1. Get a "can do" attitude:

If you can do it in sports, music, dance, etc., you can do it in math!  
Try not to let fear or negative experiences turn you off to math.

#### 2. Practice a little math every day:

It helps you build up your confidence and move your brain away from the panic button at test time.

#### 3. Take advantage of your math class:

As a high school student, realize that most colleges and universities require at least College Algebra for any bachelor's degree. If you are getting a bachelor's degree, then chances are you are going for a professional job. Most professional jobs require at least some math. Granted, some more than others, but nonetheless math (problem solving, numbers, etc...) is everywhere. **So make sure that you embrace your math experience and make the most of it.**

#### 4. Ask questions in class:

Don't be ashamed to ask questions. As a matter of fact, at least one other person will have the same question.



"What do you expect? My edition of the math book doesn't have the answers in it like yours does."

## 5. Ask questions outside of class:

OK, so like most people, you don't want to ask questions in class, or you think of a question too late. Then after class, go to your teacher and ask away.

## 6. Get help outside the classroom:

- Go to your teacher's morning and afternoon help sessions.
- Go to the WHS Math help sessions (morning and/or afternoon)
- Go to guidance to get matched with a peer math tutor.
- Go online to find math websites (PurpleMath, CoolMath, etc...)

## 7. Attend class everyday:

Math is a sequential subject. That means that what you are learning today builds on what you learned yesterday.

## 8. Pay attention in class:

If you don't stay alert to the instructor's presentation, you will miss important steps to learning concepts. Remember, today's information sets the foundation for tomorrow's work.

## 9. Don't talk in class:

If you have questions, please ask the teacher. The information you get from classmates may be mathematically wrong! And if it isn't related to math info for the class, save it for outside the classroom.



**“I couldn’t do my homework because my computer has a virus and so do all my pencils and pens.”**

### **10. Keep up with the homework:**

No homework, no learning. Homework helps you practice the applications of math concepts.

### **11. Read your notes, math textbook and study guide:**

If you look carefully, you will see that your book contains pages with great examples, explanations and definitions of terms. Take advantage of them.

### **12. Try to understand the math problems:**

When you work homework problems, ask yourself what you are looking for and how you are going to get there. Don't just follow the example. Work the problem step-by-step until you know why you are doing what you are and have arrived at the solution. If you follow the what, how, and whys, you'll know what to do when you see a similar problem later.

### **13. Check homework assignments:**

Make sure you check your answers when going over the homework. You must look over what you got right as well as what you missed.

### **14. Use index cards to study tests:**

Here's how you do that: When studying for a test, make sure you can understand the problems on each math concept as well as work them. Then make the index cards with problems on them. Mix the index cards (yes, shuffle the cards to mix them up) and set the timer. Start working the problems in each card as it is dealt to you. Oh, yeah, hide your textbook! This will simulate a math test taking experience.

