Tips and Tricks For Remote Learning

There's no one right way to do remote learning. What's important is that you find a mix of habits, tools and technologies that work well for you. With over 20 years of experience in digital learning, we're here to share our learnings and insights with you. Have you identified a tip that's working well for you? Tweet **@Blackboard** to share it with us.

1   Get to know your learning style

Every learner processes information differently. Information is consumed by sight, hearing and hands-on interaction. Most people have one predominant learning style, and learn in a combination of ways. Paying attention to how you learn best can better enable you to get content in the right format for your unique needs.

2   Connect with your teacher

Regular two-way communication with your teacher is even more important when learning remotely. Share activities that worked for you and communicate actively about how the year is going. If you're struggling, reach out just like you would if sitting in a brick-and-mortar classroom. If your teacher offers remote office hours or a virtual open house, take advantage of the opportunity to build relationships.

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> ‣ **Blackboard Collaborate
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3   Use alternate formats to make content work for you

Closed captions, transcripts and alternate text for images provide you with a variety of ways to consume content. Using a mix of formats can help you comprehend and process learning artifacts in a way that works best for your abilities and learning style.

4   Engage with your peers

Even while learning remotely, technology can help keep you connected to your fellow learners. Formal interactions through coursework like discussion boards, group work and collaborative activities can spark connections. Pursue informal opportunities to engage as well, like text messages, email and even social media as appropriate, to stay connected to your peers.

5   Customize your technology & tools

Even if you're a technology pro, getting to know the ins and outs of the hardware and software you will be using for learning this year will set you up for success. Invest 15 minutes in each tool you'll be using. Most EdTech companies provide online getting started guides just for students. Regarding your hardware, consider customizing settings such as how quickly the lock screen turns on, keyboard shortcuts, font sizes and brightness.

6   Use your technology's features to help you focus

If you're learning on a mobile device, check out the Guided Access feature to limit moments of distraction. Screen Time limitations can also discourage the use of non-academic apps throughout the day. Browser extensions can similarly limit your ability to open new tabs.

7   Take breaks

Stepping away from your learning space for a 15-30 minute break several times throughout the day can improve long-term retention of knowledge. Getting some fresh air, taking a short walk or even moving to a different room for a break can keep your energy up and your mind sharp.

8   Talk about what you're learning

Articulating key concepts verbally, even in the mirror, can help identify gaps in understanding. Sharing with your friends and family can also be productive and fun. Pay attention to areas that were easy for you to repeat and areas where you struggled, so that you can fill in the gaps.

9   Take note of what's working for you

As you fall into a rhythm, you may note that you learn best in the mornings or are most engaged after lunch. By paying attention to what's working for you, you can set up your day to play to your strengths.