STUDY HABITS

Simple and Effective Tips and Strategies to Boost Productivity, Maximise Your Learning and Ace Your Exams
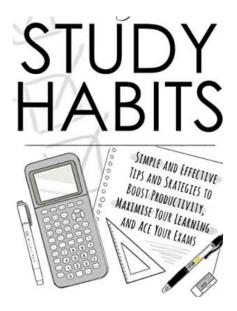
How to stay focused while studying, a guide

Studying is tough. Whether you're a veteran student getting a Ph.D. or someone starting high school, figuring out how to stay focused while studying is a challenge that we all face. Whether your biggest challenge is social media, procrastination, time management, or a combination of all three, we've got a variety of tools and techniques that can help minimize the stress of studying and keep you focused on what matters.

And if you're like most of us – this school year is presenting challenges we've never faced before. Learning remotely and losing the motivation and pressure that comes with in-person learning and contact has left many of us fighting off the internet like never before. So let's dig in!

1. Find a suitable environment.

Location, location, location. Finding where you work best is an essential part of any successful studying session. For some, the quiet of a library is essential, but for others, the light bustle of a coffee shop can be just the right amount of background noise to stay focused.

2. Create a study ritual.

When it comes to staying focused while studying, it's important to create a routine to help you find your flow and focus. A good place to start is having a pre-study ritual that involves things like clearing your desk, closing your door, grabbing all the materials you'll need, putting on some headphones, and creating a

to-do list. Taking five minutes to set up your workspace will not only physically prepare you to study, but also help train your brain to transition into a state of focus more effortlessly. With the space around you clear of distractions, your mind is free to focus on what is most important.

Ultimately, there's no quick, one-size-fits-all solution to staying focused while studying. Different methods and tools will work better for some than others. However, with a little trial and error and the tools and techniques above, you can create a routine of focused studying that works best for you

GIT thought provoking corner

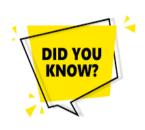*"Though nobody can go back and make a new beginning, anyone can start over and make a new ending."*

– Chico Xavier

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Career Guide

Quick & to the point – Career Advice

Question: "Ant tips for being in a group interview?"
- *Karen Plousse*

Answer: Unfortunately, the group interview will almost always be difficult for a shy or introverted person. If it isn't in your personality to be constantly speaking up in a crowd, be sure that when you do answer questions or give your opinion, you do so with purpose. Remember, you don't have to talk constantly to be noticed—but to be memorable, make sure what you're saying is unique and contributing to the conversation. So skip the rehearsed answers—with multiple candidates answering the same question, any material you prepared ahead of time will most likely be similar to someone else's—and focus on moving the conversation forward with your contributions. Best of luck!

Andrei

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5 post-covid tech trends expected to grow exponentially

The Fourth Industrial Revolution was supposed to unfold gradually and slowly, yet the pandemic catalyzed it. Businesses that were simply exploring the value of digitalization realized that it would be impossible to move further ignoring the benefits of AI, XR and IoT, among other technologies. Some trends that appeared during Covid will disappear, but I believe many of them are here to stay. So which tech trends will become our new reality?

1. Collaboration tools will be integrated with business applications.
Communication and interaction between team members and teams will be united within one system so that users won't need to go between several messengers, mailboxes and business tools to perform work. Any enterprise resource planning system, a client's relationship management system or an accounting system will be equipped with messengers and calendar apps for effortless interaction. IT giants noticed this trend after the start of the pandemic and made their moves: Microsoft is integrating Teams into business apps and Salesforce acquired Slack. The trend will be growing and changing but it won't disappear.

2. E-commerce will be more immersive.
The number of users visiting e-commerce
websites skyrocketed in 2020. It won't be too bold to say that people have finally got used to buying online. We've come to see online shopping as something natural, more comfortable and even more effective compared to in-person shopping. Yet, the tastes

of buyers are also changing: They want to try goods and services before spending money on them.

3. AI will support employees, not replace them.

For a long time, the world expected that AI would eventually substitute a human being in the workplace. Yet it's getting clear that AI, as a technological phenomenon, is taking another course: augmentation of a human being at work instead of substitution. Machine learning, object character recognition, deep learning, big data, computer vision and natural language processing are the technologies we unite under the term "AI." And these technologies are already taking on the more repetitive tasks and routine work of employees.

4. The connectivity of devices continues.

With a rapidly declining price for IoT sensors, the development of edge computing, along with the advent of 5G, has made sensors accessible for any industry.

For example, monitoring the condition of equipment at a construction site can be conducted easier thanks to the accessibility of IoT. The keyword here is remote — there is no need to be close to the object of monitoring to receive full, accurate information about it.

5. Cloud services will continue to dominate.

Cloud services have become the prerequisite of any IT development, and all the skepticism toward the cloud has disappeared. Flexibility and scalability are the two most obvious reasons for the popularity of cloud services. Small businesses, as well as enterprises, realized that betting on the cloud is also incredibly cost-effective compared to any on-premise approach to data storage.

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A day in the life
Senior Software Engineer and Team Lead

Meet Jordi Böhme! He's one of our Senior Software Engineers and Team Leads who works remotely in Germany. We spoke to him about his job and working in a different time zone.

What does a typical day as a Senior Software Engineer and Team Lead look like for you?

First thing in the morning, I check the Slack channels and my email inbox for any noteworthy things that happened overnight.
Up next I look for leftovers, loose ends or time-critical work (like code reviews, done verifications or a code-red defect), which I can wrap up or continue driving forward, to take advantage of the time zone difference and unblock the team. The rest of the day I take on and work on stories from our Kanban board. In rare cases, our field professionals reach out for technical help, where I try to help out as best as possible.

In the afternoon, the Austin (TX) team starts their workday, which can lead to some video calls to discuss features, release plans and other topics. In the evening, around 6pm, the HQ in Vancouver awakens and I finish my day off with meetings like standups, one-on-ones and technical discussions. My day ends at around 8pm, followed by a family dinner and bedtime.

Greatest accomplishment at your job so far?

There are features and connectors that I worked on, which I'm pretty proud of, but the more I think about it, I value the camaraderie with my teammates and the friendships that I have formed, despite being in a remote location.

5 Benefits of technology training

Technology is a necessity in today's society. Almost everyone uses it in one form or another – cell phones, telephones, Smart TV's, computers, voice texting, software applications, games and the list goes on.

If your employees don't understand how to effectively use technology, especially in the workplace, it can hinder productivity and workflow. We've pinpointed five of the most important benefits to training your employees on technology.

1 **It saves money.** – Employees that are properly trained spend less time troubleshooting and more time on productive and revenue-driving tasks.

2 **It saves time.** – When employees are knowledgeable about the applications they use, they can work quickly and finish projects faster.

3 It fosters a competitive edge. – Companies that can use all their solutions effectively are likely to outperform those that struggle to understand the basics. And, since you're saving time and money, you can re-allocate those measures to innovative projects.
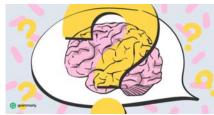
4 It boosts confidence. – Confident employees are better employees. When people know how to efficiently do their job, they are much more likely to be happy in their position, resulting in less turnover for your business.

5 It allows for team building. – Training requires employees from different departments to learn and work together. More experienced users can jump in and help those around them, and employees get a glimpse of how other departments work. Training is a necessary aspect of your technology solutions and planning. As we become more and more reliant on technology, it's important that your employees know how to utilize the solutions that your business is investing in.

Basic, smart questions you can ask in an interview

It's the day of the big interview for your dream job. You've been prepping for weeks. You know the company in and out. You know why you're the best candidate for the job. You're ready to talk about your skills, weaknesses, ideas, plans, hopes, dreams, and favorite TV show. And then they ask: any questions for us? And you've got nothing.

Don't be that person. Acing an interview doesn't just mean knowing all the answers to the questions that get thrown at *you*: it also involves having a good set of questions to ask *them*. being informed. Good questions can also show what kind of a thinker you are or demonstrate your personality, giving you an extra boost as that candidate who

thinks critically and digs for information successfully.

Below are the basic categories you might want to know about. Consider this the footnotes version of the kinds of questions you might want to ask.

- What's life on the job like?
- What kind of training do they offer?
- How is feedback provided?
- What's the company culture like?
- Who's on the team you'll be working with, are they cool, and how does working together work?
- What are the next steps in the interview process? In other words, when are you going to tell me whether I'm hired?

To get the answers you really want, you probably want to get even more specific in the questions you ask. Sure, you probably won't have time to ask a full list of say twenty-five questions, but the more specific you get, the better informed you'll be.