



How to Use Flashcards

Simple, powerful retrieval practice you can carry in your pocket

When should you make flashcards?

Make flashcards **after** you understand the topic, **not before**.

Best times:

- After a lesson when notes are complete
- When starting revision for a topic
- When a teacher gives key words, formulas, quotations, or definitions

Flashcards work best for:

- Key facts, vocabulary, formulas, dates, quotations, processes
- Anything you need to remember exactly for tests or exams

Tip: **Keep them short** — one question, one clear answer.

How should you practise flashcards?

1. Test yourself, don't just read them

Look at the question → say the answer from memory → then check.

2. Say answers out loud or write them down

This strengthens memory more than thinking silently.

3. Sort cards into piles

- Know it
- Not sure
- Don't know — practise the weaker piles more often

4. Use spaced practice

Revisit cards after 1 day, 3 days, 1 week, 2 weeks.

5. Mix subjects and topics

This helps your brain choose the right answer in exams.

6. Keep sessions short and regular

10–15 minutes, little and often, works best.

Key idea to remember: flashcards only work if you actively test your memory regularly over time — not if you just read them.