

# How to Practice with a Study Partner

Help each other succeed.

Working well with a partner is one of the most important things you will ever learn.

Find a study partner. Ask a friend.  
Ask a sibling.

Ask someone who needs help.

Practice when you are together.  
Practice online, or on the phone.

You do not need to practice together to be a good study partner. Here are things you can do even if you cannot practice together.

Set goals. Meet or talk once a week and share the goals on your progress chart.

If you do not feel like practicing, talk to your partner. Share your thoughts and feelings.

Think of your partner when you mark your practice chart. Send a text.

Plan a celebration with your partner. Come up with something you can do when you both reach your goals.

## Reasons to be a great study partner.

- It feels good to help others.
- Be a: Better teammate. Better classmate. Better sibling. Better friend.
- The better you are as a partner, the better your partner will be for you.
- Getting good at coaching others will help you to coach yourself.

## Keys to being a great study partner.

- Give it your all, both when practicing, and when helping your partner.
- Be encouraging. Mistakes are part of learning. Help your partner learn from mistakes.
- If your partner is struggling, offer to practice more.
- Be a good example for your partner. Practice every day.
- Send your progress report to your partner as early in the day as you can.

## For Teachers: Six minutes of practice.

Teachers, give students time to practice with partners. Students can use flashcards or *FastFacts Math*.

- 1) Signal to students to get their study materials and go to their partner station.
- 2) For two minutes students practice on their own.
- 3) After two minutes, signal student A to answer and student B to be the coach.
- 4) A and B switch roles.

During this time observe and provide feedback. Students get practice with immediate feedback. Students learn math facts and how to practice with a partner. There is nothing to collect or correct.

# Practice with flashcards.

Print flashcards and answer forms at [studysmart.com](http://studysmart.com).

If you know the product, write it.  
Check your answer.

Factors			Product	Check	Hint
3	x	4	= 12		-

**Check your answer.**

If the answer is correct, place a check in the Check column.

Factors			Product	Check	Hint
3	x	4	= 12	✓	-

If you need a hint, place a ? in the Hint column.

Factors			Product	Check	Hint
3	x	4	=		?

If not correct, cross out your answer, and write the correct answer in the Check column.

Factors			Product	Check	Hint
3	x	4	= <del>14</del>	12	

Listen as your partner reads the hint to you.  
If you know the product, write it.  
Check your answer.

Factors			Product	Check	Hint
3	x	4	= 12		?

If you do not know the product, write a ? in the Product column. Check the answer.

Factors			Product	Check	Hint
3	x	4	= ?		?

## Help your partner.

- If you see your partner is counting, stop them.
- After a miss, talk about the fact and the hint. Discuss strategies and ways to understand and remember the fact.
- Make sure your partner answers **before** turning the card over.
- Be encouraging and patient, with yourself, and with your partner.

### 3) Measure your progress using flashcards and answer forms.

If you know the answer, write it.  
There are no hints when measuring progress.

If your partner counts quietly to three, (1001, 1002, 1003) and you have not answered, turn the card over. Write a "?" in the Product column, and the correct answer in the Check column.

Factors			Product	Check	Hint
3	x	4	= ?	12	

After you answer, turn the card over.

If correct, write a "✓" in the Check column.

Factors			Product	Check	Hint
3	x	4	= 12	✓	

If not correct, cross out your answer, and write the correct answer in the Check column.

Factors			Product	Check	Hint
3	x	4	= <del>14</del>	12	

# Practice with FastFacts Math.

Look at the student guide. There is a page for using FastFacts Math.  
Learn how to enter your name and create lists.  
Learn how to practice and review.

**If you are using the app to practice with your partner.**

- If you do not know the answer, ask your partner to read the hint.  
Print the Hint Chart in the library at [studysmart.com](http://studysmart.com).

If your partner is using the app to practice, you read hints when needed.

After you or your partner miss a fact, spend time looking at the back of the card and the hint chart. Talk about ways you can better understand and remember the fact.

## Testing and review.

Make sure you and your partner set a time limit per answer.  
Three seconds is plenty of time to answer, but not enough time to count.  
After a miss pause, take a breath and refocus.  
The timer stops until you press Next.  
If your partner misses, suggest taking a pause.  
Provide encouragement.

## Have a contest with your partner.

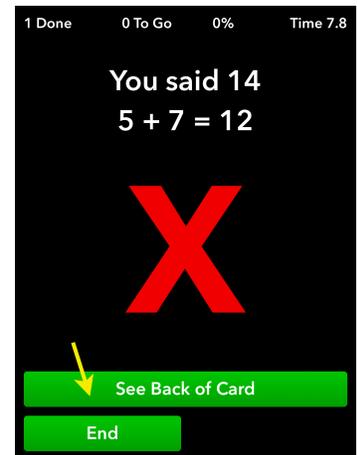
Who can get the best time? Agree on a set of facts.  
See who can get the best total time.

First to the top. The first to get 100% on all the facts in the challenge, with a three-second time limit.

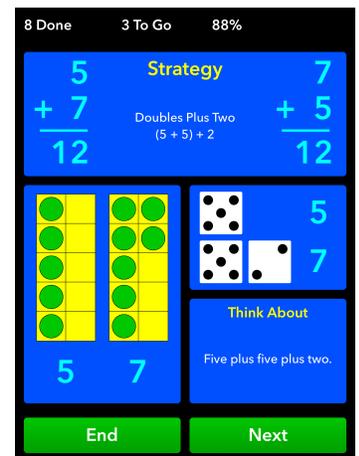
Challenge another pair of study partners. Agree on facts.  
Combine times and compare them.

See who can log the most practice minutes in a week.  
In a month.

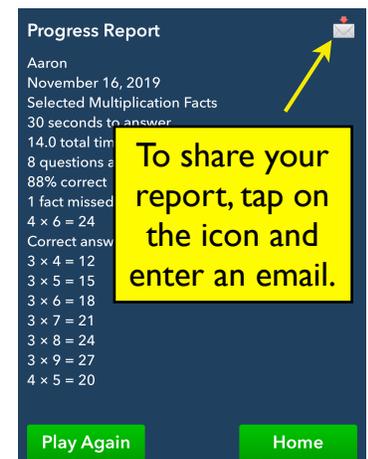
First to practice for 25 days in a row.



After a miss, tap on See Back of Card.



Look at the back of the card.  
Discuss strategies.



Share your progress reports with your partner.