

# Making Revision Cards

Revision cards are among the most popular revision resources. The idea is that you summarise some information on a single blank postcard or note card. Then you use the card for revision.



→ What are revision cards and how can they be used?

Five things to do with revision cards

**1.** Write question on one side and answer on the other side - then test yourself or ask someone else to test you.

**2.** Write key names or terms on one side and a summary of what they wrote or the definition on the other side.

**3.** Write the advantages of something on one side and the disadvantages or criticisms on the other.

**4.** Write about something in reasonable detail on one side and use the other side to summarise its key points as a short list (no more than five points).

**5.** Discuss a subject with a few friends and decided what sort of cards would be most useful. Divide the subject up into sections and make each person responsible for making revision cards for one or more sections. Meet up when the cards are made and revise from the cards together, for example by testing each other.

# Testing Yourself

Checking your knowledge and understanding as you go along is an essential part of revision. It lets you know what is going into your brain and what needs "topping up".

Here are some suggestions for checking your revision progress.



→ How is it best to check how my revision is going?

## Look, cover, test, check

If you've made resources such as revision cards, you can study them, cover them and try to reproduce what was there (either in your mind, speaking it, or writing it down again).



## Quiz Time

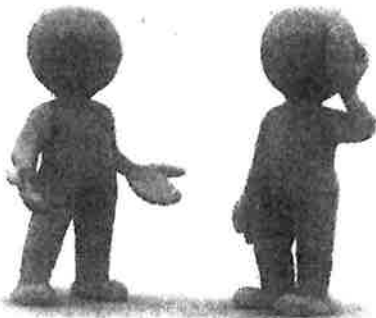
Give your revision materials to a friend or member of the family and ask them to make up questions to test you. There is something of an art to this so you may need to train your quizmaster.

## Do some exam questions

This can be very effective, especially if you have access to someone who can mark them or if you are good at using a mark scheme. If you have planned your revision effectively you should have time to set yourself a mock exam. Past exams can be found at [www.nzqa.govt.nz](http://www.nzqa.govt.nz)

## Make up exam questions

Study past exam paper and see if you can think up similar (but different) questions.



# Making Mind Maps

Mind maps are a way of organising ideas about a topic. A mind map usually starts with a central idea with a series of branches, each relating to one aspect of the main idea. These lead to other branches and so it goes on.

A mind map allows you to see the whole topic on one sheet of paper. Also making the mind map helps you learn both the detail and the big picture of a topic.

Five things to do with mind maps

1. Stick them up somewhere in your house where you sit and dream - maybe your bedroom walls or ceiling - even the toilet!

2. Spend some time learning the mind map, turn the paper over and see if you can remember it well enough to copy.

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4. Use mind maps to plan essays - put the title in the centre, then have one branch for each key point and use further branches to develop those points.

5. Get together with a friend and make mind maps together using lots of colour and pictures.



→ What are mind maps and how can they be used for revision?

