

Magoosh GRE Blog

Everything you need to know about the GRE

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6 Month GRE Study Plan for Math Beginners

BY MIKE MCGARRY ON MARCH 13, 2012 IN STUDY GUIDES AND PLANS

Important Note: Hey Magooshers! We recently updated this study plan to include the most up to date resources and videos from Magoosh GRE Prep. If you began using this study schedule before **June 2015**, we'd recommend that you continue to prep with the same version of the study schedule that you started with. You can find that version [here](#).

Questions or concerns? If you're a Magoosh Premium student, you can email us at help@magoosh.com. Not a Magoosh student yet? Leave a comment on this post and we'll get back to you there. Happy studying! 😊

OK, you are starting more or less from scratch, and you want to prepare for the GRE in six months. You need a strategic plan to organize yourself. I designed two different versions of the six-month plan, and I need you to start with a little self-diagnosis. Which sounds most like you?



- [6 Month GRE Study Plan \(Advanced Math\)](#): I'm pretty good at math, and I really would like to nail Quantitative section of the GRE.

NOTE: You are not sacrificing anything by studying this plan. All the information needed for a stellar GRE performance will pass before your eyes: it is entirely up to you how quickly you learn, how deeply you remember, how well you assimilate, etc. This plan includes quite a bit of math practice and review, to help you get up to speed.

Do you need to adapt this study schedule to meet your needs? Check out [this blog post](#) for adjustment tips!

Essential Materials:

- [Magoosh GRE Prep](#)
- [ETS's Official Guide to the GRE book](#) (+ our free [video explanations](#))
- [ETS's POWERPREP II Software](#): You can now use [PowerPrep for Mac](#).
- The [Official GRE Quantitative Reasoning Practice Questions](#), for additional math practice
- The [Official GRE Verbal Reasoning Practice Questions](#), for additional verbal practice
- Magoosh's online [GRE Flashcards](#). They're free and you can use them on the web, on your [iPhone/iPad](#) or [Android](#).
- Reading material: this may be any [non-fiction scholarly book](#), history and social science preferable. You may also choose one of the [recommended magazines](#): [Scientific American](#), [Atlantic Monthly](#), [The New Yorker](#), [National Geographic](#), [The Economist](#), or [The New York Times](#) (a Sunday subscription is a great idea!). You are reading (a) to build your reading comprehension skills, (b) to refine your understanding of grammar and usage, and (c) to expand your vocabulary.
- [Barron's New GRE, 19th edition](#) (We don't have a particularly high opinion of this book. We are just going to use this volume for the practice tests.)
- [McGraw Hill's Conquering the New GRE Math](#)
- The [Manhattan GRE 5 lb. Book of GRE Practice Problems](#) (either edition) as well as Volumes #1-6 of the [Manhattan GRE](#) books: in addition to Magoosh problems, you will also do a great deal of math practice in these books. Among other things, the code in the back of any of these books will give you access to their online practice GREs. (NOTE: the MGRE series has 8 volumes in total, but we do not recommend volumes 7 & 8).
- The **GMAT Official Guide**. You DO NOT need the most up-to-date [edition](#). In fact, I recommend getting an earlier edition (e.g. [OG13](#) or [OG12](#)), which you probably can find used for a fraction of the cost of the newest edition. You are going to use this as a bank of additional practice problems for GRE reading comprehension. (I am not assigning any math out of this book, but if you want more math practice, feel free to do the GMAT Problem Solving practice questions, which are identical to GRE Multiple Choice math questions. GMAT math tends to be a shade more difficult than GRE math.)
- a journal or notebook (yes, a physical hard copy item)

- Notecards

NOTE: Don't write in any of the test prep books, because for any of them, after a period of time you may want to go back and do a problem again that you haven't seen for a while. You can only start it fresh if the page is free of your marks.

Supplemental/Optional Materials:

Any of the steps listed in the schedule for the materials below are purely for extra practice, so they are to be done as optional tasks if you have extra time.

- Download the Magoosh Android or iPhone app, for mobile practice
- [Quizlet.com](https://quizlet.com) — gives you online access to flashcards, making it easier, say, to quiz yourself on your mobile device
- [Vocabulary.com](https://vocabulary.com): provides conversational example sentences and a flood of example sentences
- [Word Dynamo](https://worddynamo.com) — give you little quizzes & games to add some variety to vocab learning

Bonus: Watch this video for tips on how to use Magoosh's GRE study schedules.

A NOTE ON LEARNING GRE VOCABULARY: *First of all, it's important not only to learn the literal dictionary definition (the denotation), but also to understand the metaphorical use of the word in context (the connotation). For example, the word "opaque" literally means "not transparent", but metaphorically it can mean "hard to understand" or, describing a person, it can mean "thick-headed, stupid." Ultimately, you should strive to learn both the denotation and the connotation of each word.*

Daily review of vocab is vital. I wrote this schedule recommending the Magoosh's GRE Flashcards, but DO NOT limit yourself to just these words. AS YOU READ and find more words you don't know, look them up, make flashcards (including context), and make your own flashcard decks. You could have one pile for words whose denotation you are trying to master, another containing words for which you know the denotation but not the connotation, and a "done" stack that gets reviewed only rarely.

This six-month plan enjoins a relaxed pace that should be followed diligently, lest things get out of hand through procrastination. It's designed to have you improve as much as you can improve in a six months. I have designed 25 weeks, assuming 1-2 hours for each of the five weekdays, and one 4-5 stint on weekends, mostly in the second half ("Day Six"). If you would prefer to work on both weekend days, and free up some weeknight time, feel free to make those changes. Notice

that a six-month period is actually 26 weeks, so I have left one week free, knowing that inevitably something (a camping trip, a wedding, etc.) will arise and interrupt studying for about a week. If you can work straight through, that gives you more time for concentrated review at the end. **NOTE:** Many folks find that each day's assignments take 1-2 hours, although times to complete them will vary for different students.

NOTE: In this plan, you do NOT focus exclusively on one math topic, binge on that one thing, master it, then move to the next and repeat. That design is NOT a good model for how the brain learns. This plan "spirals" in a variety of ways. You will learn math topics in one order in the Magoosh lessons, in another order in the Manhattan GRE series of books, and yet another order in the Manhattan GRE 5-lb book. Furthermore, the Magoosh practice questions will be entirely mixed in topic. Every time you come back to a topic, be very perceptive about exactly what aspects you remembered and exactly what aspects you forget. Always ask yourself: how can I understand this topic more deeply this time around? In all likelihood, different things about the topic will stick in your head when you learn about it from a different source: notice what you aspects about the topic make sense this time around. By intermittent reinforcement, deepening a little more each time, you will achieve cohesive comprehension over time.

NOTE: As much as possible, get enough sleep during this period, especially in the last couple months. REM sleep plays an important role in encoding long term memory, and in an eight hour period of sleep, the last hour has the most REM. If you are getting 7 hours/night instead of 8 hours/night, you are depriving your brain of one of its most powerful systems for learning and remembering. Caffeine and energy drinks will keep you feeling awake if you don't get enough sleep, but they don't do bupkis to replace the lost opportunity to encode more information into long term memory.

As you move through this plan, I will recommend that you also put into practice stress-reduction techniques. If you can practice these regularly, then you will be excellent shape by test day. These are four GMAT blogs, but everything here is just as relevant for the GRE:

1. [Overcome Exam Anxiety: Breathe](#)
2. [Stress and Your Thoughts](#)
3. [Stress and Your Stories](#)
4. [Zen Boot Camp for Test-taking](#)

A note about additional materials:

Magoosh contains all the information you need for wild success on the exam and many students have achieved spectacular results using nothing but Magoosh. Nevertheless, this plan recommends that you buy additional materials and use them, in addition to the Magoosh materials. Here's why: These plans were structured with far-reaching pedagogical principles in mind, and a deep consideration for how the human brain learns. Most people cannot hear or read something just once and, from that single hearing, remember it completely and understand it fully.

At Magoosh, we are very ambitious for our students; we want them to learn as thoroughly and as masterfully as possible. We recommend using these additional resources to provide additional practice, alternative explanations, and extra review. Not every student will need or want additional materials, but for those who do, the books we recommend are the best for the overall goal of doing very well on the exam.

Week One

1) Go to [ETS.org/gre](https://ets.org/gre), and read about the content of the GRE. Click on and read each sub-heading link.

2) In the GRE Official Guide,

- Read Chapter 1, "Introducing the GRE revised General Test"
- Read Chapter 2, "GRE Analytic Writing" (just the descriptions of the question, not all the sample material)
- Read the introductory few pages of Chapter 3, "GRE Verbal Reasoning" (everything up to the sample questions)
- Read the introductory few pages of Chapter 5, "GRE Quantitative Reasoning" (everything up to the sample questions)

3) Work through the GRE Math Review in the Official Guide. Take notes in your journal on whatever is unfamiliar. Do the four Exercises sets as you come to the end of each section, and correct your answers right after you do each Exercise set. Take note in your journal on what you got wrong. If you can't figure out why you're wrong from re-reading the Math Review, then ask us at Magoosh. — If, in this process, you find you remember a lot more math than you thought, or that you are better at it than you thought, you might wish to reconsider which six-month study plan you are following.

4) In Magoosh, watch the following videos

- Intro to the GRE module

- General Math Strategies module

5) Read half-an-hour each day. In a week, you should read 4-6 full articles from *The Economist*, and multiple chapters from your books.

6) In Magoosh's GRE Vocabulary Flashcards, I suggest mastering 10 words each day. For each word, make sure the denotation *and* connotation is understood. Each day, review your stack of flashcards.

7) In Magoosh's GRE Math Flashcards, start practicing the Algebra deck.

8) In Magoosh, set up a practice session by clicking on the "Practice" link in the header. For Math, uncheck all of the subjects, set the difficulty to "adaptive," the question pool to "unanswered", the number of questions, the time to "no limit," and the mode to "practice mode." Do the following practice sets:

- 25 Multiple Choice math questions

NOTE: For all Magoosh questions — If you get the question wrong, watch the video explanation, and take notes in your journal on whatever you need to learn from the question. If you got the question right, simply skim the text solution (below the video), to verify you got the question right for the right reason.

NOTE: Notice in the Magoosh math questions, you are doing all topics from the get-go, whether you have already studied these or not. This means that you will make mistakes at the beginning: that's fine! See this post on a [productive attitude toward making mistakes](#). If, after a week or so of practice, you find that there is way too much new material for you, then narrow your studies to those topics you're more actively studying plus one or two that you're unfamiliar with. You should be constantly challenged. If you do narrow the topics of study, expand back to as wide a scope as possible as quickly as possible. If you can only do problems on a particular topic when you are "in the mode" for that particular topic, then you do not yet have a GRE-ready level of understanding. You are only GRE-ready if you can solve problems as they arise in mixed-topic practice: cold and with no particular preparation on that topic. That's what the test will demand. See this [GMAT post](#) for more on levels of understanding, and [this one](#) on the value of mixed-topic practice.

9) In Magoosh, set up a practice session by clicking on the "Practice" link in the header. For Verbal, again select "Adaptive." Do the following practice sets:

- 10 Sentence Equivalence verbal questions

10) In the GMAT Official Guide (any edition)

- In Section 7.4, Reading Comprehension Practice Questions, read the first RC passage and answer the associated questions
- In Section 8.4, Critical Reasoning Practice Questions, answer the first five CR questions

NOTE: *The GMAT Critical Reasoning provides excellent practice for the GRE Reading Comprehension Paragraph Argument questions. Some folks think that the LSAT Logical Reasoning questions are a little bit closer to the GRE RC PA questions. I am recommending the GMAT CR questions only because you have the book anyway for the GMAT Reading Comprehension. If you would prefer to practice LSAT problems instead, get any book of LSAT practice tests and practice the LSAT Logical Reasoning questions instead of the GMAT Critical Reasoning questions. Either one will prepare you very well for the GRE Reading Comprehension Paragraph Argument questions.*

11) GRE Blogs: Read the following two blogs

- [Coming Back to Math After Years Away](#)
- [How To Do GRE Math Faster](#)

Week One, Day Six:

1) Download and start reading the Magoosh eBook: [A Complete Guide to the Revised GRE](#)

- This will give you an excellent overview of the entire test.

2) Download and skim the [Magoosh Math Formula eBook](#)

- You will learn all of these as part of this plan. Simply notice how many look familiar right now. You may find it helpful, a few times during the six-months, to review to this as a way of measuring how much your math skills have solidified.

3) Download and skim the [Magoosh GRE Vocabulary eBook](#)

- Read the strategy section ("Making Words Stick"). Use this book's word lists and its way of clustering together either related words or words important to distinguish as a complement to your other vocabulary learning. When you learn a new

word, say, from the Magoosh GRE Flashcards and you remember it was one listed here, go back to review the connections here.

4) In the *Manhattan GRE 5-lb Book of Practice Problems*:

- Do the Math Diagnostic test (pp. 27-32)

Keep a 35 minute time limit, and use no calculator at all. This will give you a good sense of what you most need to practice. When you are done with this and with any math practice, skim the explanations of the questions you got right, to verify that you got them right for the right reasons. Study carefully the explanations of any questions you got wrong, taking notes on anything unfamiliar. As you learn topics in the Magoosh videos or in the Manhattan GRE series of books, you may want to come back and review the problems you got wrong on this and try to understand it at a deeper level.

Week Two:

1) In Magoosh, watch the following videos

- The Arithmetic and Fractions module
- The Percents and Ratios module

NOTE: *at the end of any math module with a quiz, take the quiz, and continue to review and retake it on successive days until you can pass.*

2) In *McGraw Hill's Conquering the New GRE Math*

- Read Chapter #1-6; do all exercises in the course of those pages.

NOTE: *For exercises in the McGraw Hill's Conquering the New GRE Math book: As soon as you work through an exercise set, correct your work. See if you can figure out your mistake on your own first, and then read the solutions thorough, taking notes in your journal on whatever was new, unfamiliar, or confusing.*

3) In the *Manhattan GRE 5-lb Book of Practice Problems*:

- Do Ch. 7 Arithmetic

NOTE: *the problems sets in this book start very easy, and increase in difficulty. You should definitely do the first 20 problems in each chapter, and if you are having reasonable success, continue through to the rest of the problems. Even if you give up on the last few problems, make sure to read the explanations for them so that you learn from them and understand them.*

NOTE: *We recommend all the math problems in this book, because they are of very high quality. We do not recommend the verbal material in this book.*

4) Read at least half-an-hour each day. In a week, you should read 4-6 full articles from periodicals of your choice, and multiple chapters from your books. As you read, note grammatical structures, and look up and write down any words you don't know.

5) In Magoosh's GRE Vocabulary Flashcards, look over the next 50 words. I suggest doing 10 words each day. Each day, review at least some of your flashcard decks.

6) In Magoosh's GRE Math Flashcards, continue reviewing the Algebra deck.

7) *GMAT Official Guide* (any edition)

- In Section 7.4, Reading Comprehension Practice Questions, read the next RC passage and answer the associated questions
- In Section 8.4, Critical Reasoning Practice Questions, answer the next five CR questions

8) In Magoosh, do the following problems

- 25 Multiple Choice math problems
- 10 Quantitative Comparison math problems
- 10 Data Interpretation math problems
- 20 Text Completion verbal questions
- 10 Sentence Equivalence questions
- 15 Reading Comprehension questions

NOTE: *Some of Magoosh's GRE RC questions are stand-alone questions, the Paragraph Argument questions, but questions that come with a passage are batched with that passage. Always do all the questions associated with a passage in one sitting.*

This may mean some weeks, you do a little more or a little less than 15 RC questions: that's fine, as long as you keep up about an average of 15.

9) In the Manhattan GRE series,

- Read Volume 1: Algebra, and do all the practice problems as you work through the book.

NOTE: *Instead of an official "Day Six" assignment, some of these early weeks you will be working through one of the Manhattan GRE volumes and some problems from the GRE Verbal Practice book. You don't have to do all the other practice on weekdays and read these two books only on the weekend! You get to decide how you want to distribute the work of this week so that it most makes sense for you. Because of the extra work of reading through the extra book, you are not assigned a formal Day Six. Use Day Six simply to finish the week's work.*

10) In the *Official GRE Verbal Reasoning Practice Questions* book

- Skim the first two chapters: most of that should be familiar.
- In Ch. 3, do the Reading Comprehension practice sets, starting on p. 18. Correct your work when you are done.

Week Two, Day Six

See note above.

Week Three:

1) In Magoosh, watch the following videos

- The Integer Properties module
- The Writing (AWA) module

2) In *McGraw Hill's Conquering the New GRE Math*

- Read Chapter 7, up to the first Number Properties test. Do the Practice Problems and the Numbers Properties Test 1.

3) In the *Manhattan GRE 5-lb Book of Practice Problems*:

- Do Ch. 8 Algebra

4) Read at least half-an-hour each day. In a week, you should read 4-6 full articles from periodicals of your choice, and multiple chapters from your books. As you read, note grammatical structures, and look up and write down any words you don't know.

5) In Magoosh's GRE Vocabulary Flashcards, look over the next 50 words. I suggest doing 10 words each day. Each day, review at least some of your flashcard decks.

6) In Magoosh's GRE Math Flashcards, start studying the Fractions, Ratios, and Percents deck. Continue to review the previous deck.

7) *GMAT Official Guide* (any edition)

- In Section 7.4, Reading Comprehension Practice Questions, read the next RC passage and answer the associated questions
- In Section 8.4, Critical Reasoning Practice Questions, answer the next five CR questions

8) In Magoosh, do the following problems

- 25 Multiple Choice math problems
- 10 Quantitative Comparison math problems
- 10 Data Interpretation math problems
- 20 Text Completion verbal questions
- 10 Sentence Equivalence questions
- 15 Reading Comprehension questions

9) In the Manhattan GRE series,

- Read Volume 2: Fractions, Decimals, & Percents, and do all the practice problems as you work through the book.

10) In the *Official GRE Verbal Reasoning Practice Questions* book

- In Ch. 4, do the Text Completion practice sets, starting on p. 58. Correct your work when you are done.

Week Three, Day Six

See note for Week 2, item #9.

Week Four:

1) In Magoosh, watch the following videos

- The Algebra module
- The Text Completion – Overview module

2) In *McGraw Hill's Conquering the New GRE Math*

- Continue working through Chapter 7, up to the second Number Properties Test 2. Do all associated sets of Practice Problems up to and including the Numbers Properties Test 2.

3) In the *Manhattan GRE 5-lb Book of Practice Problems*:

- Do Ch. 9 Inequalities and Absolute Values

4) Read at least half-an-hour each day. In a week, you should read 4-6 full articles from periodicals of your choice, and multiple chapters from your books. As you read, note grammatical structures, and look up and write down any words you don't know.

5) In Magoosh's GRE Vocabulary Flashcards, look over the next 50 words. I suggest doing 10 words each day. Each day, review

at least some of your flashcard decks.

6) In Magoosh's GRE Math Flashcards, continue reviewing the Fractions, Ratios, and Percents deck. Continue to review the previous deck. Do a little review with these each day.

7) *GMAT Official Guide* (any edition)

- In Section 7.4, Reading Comprehension Practice Questions, read the next RC passage and answer the associated questions
- In Section 8.4, Critical Reasoning Practice Questions, answer the next five CR questions

8) In Magoosh, do the following problems

- 25 Multiple Choice math problems
- 10 Quantitative Comparison math problems
- 10 Data Interpretation math problems
- 20 Text Completion verbal questions
- 10 Sentence Equivalence questions
- 15 Reading Comprehension questions

Week Four, Day Six

1) On Magoosh

- Take a practice GRE. You launch the practice test from the Dashboard, following the link: "Take a practice test."
- As much as possible, try to mimic the GRE conditions. Give yourself relatively short breaks in between sections. Only eat the kinds of snacks that you are planning to bring to the real GRE. Note how your sleep the night before affects your work. Note how what you had for dinner the previous night and what you had to eat earlier that day affects your energy level and concentration. Write any observations in your journal.

NOTE: *as you do practice questions from Magoosh over the coming months, you will see some repeat questions at various points. That's actually a great opportunity for you: if you get the question wrong the first time, can you learn from it*

sufficiently so that, when it reappears out of the blue months later, you can nail it? The mark of an excellent student is never to make the same mistake twice. How deeply do you have to understand the mistake you make here, so that you can nail these questions when you see them again at some point down the line?

NOTE: This is the first time in this plan that you wrote two GRE-style essays, the Issue task and the Argument task. Once you are done with the test, copy what you have written in to a Word doc.

Now that you have these essays, what do you do with them? If you have a friend or mentor who is a gifted writer, ask them to read the essays for you and critique them. If they are willing, you can show them the assessment criteria in the GRE Official Guide, and ask them to follow it. If you can afford it, hire a writing coach or writing tutor: show that tutor the assessment criteria in the OG, and have them give you feedback. If you can't afford a writing tutor and can't convince anyone else to read it, you may try posting them on [TheGradCafe](#), and see whether an expert there will critique your essay. Failing any of these options, at least you can set the essays aside, and in a couple days re-read them with the Official Guide's rubric beside you. (Notice whatever route worked for you with these essays; you can repeat that with all the essays you write in the practice tests you take as part of this plan.)

Week Five:

1) In Magoosh, watch the following videos

- The Word Problems module
- The Text Completion – No Shifts module

2) In *McGraw Hill's Conquering the New GRE Math*

- Do the Solved GRE Problems and the GRE Practice Problems at the end of Chapter 7. In Chapter 8, read through the first two sets of Practice Problems, and do those Practice Problems.

3) In the *Manhattan GRE 5-lb Book of Practice Problems*:

- Do Ch. 10 Functions, Formulas, and Sequences

4) Read at least half-an-hour each day. In a week, you should read 4-6 full articles from periodicals of your choice, and multiple chapters from your books. As you read, note grammatical structures, and look up and write down any words you don't know.

5) In Magoosh's GRE Vocabulary Flashcards, look over the next 50 words. I suggest doing 10 words each day. Each day, review at least some of your flashcard decks.

6) In Magoosh's GRE Math Flashcards, start learning the Geometry deck. Continue to review the previous decks. Do a little review with these each day.

7) *GMAT Official Guide* (any edition)

- In Section 7.4, Reading Comprehension Practice Questions, read the next RC passage and answer the associated questions
- In Section 8.4, Critical Reasoning Practice Questions, answer the next five CR questions

8) In Magoosh, do the following problems

- 25 Multiple Choice math problems
- 10 Quantitative Comparison math problems
- 10 Numerical Entry math problems
- 20 Text Completion verbal questions
- 10 Sentence Equivalence questions
- 15 Reading Comprehension questions

9) In the Manhattan GRE series,

- Read Volume 3: Geometry, and do all the practice problems as you work through the book.

10) In the *Official GRE Verbal Reasoning Practice Questions* book

- In Ch. 5, do the Sentence Completion practice sets, starting on p. 80. Correct your work when you are done.

Week Five, Day Six

See note for Week 2, item #9.

Week Six:

1) In Magoosh, watch the following videos

- The Power and Roots module
- The Text Completion – Sentence Shifts module

2) In *McGraw Hill's Conquering the New GRE Math*

- Continue reading Chapter 8. Do all the associated sets of Practice Problems up to, but not including, the Arithmetic Computation Test 1.

3) In the *Manhattan GRE 5-lb Book of Practice Problems*:

- Do Ch. 11 Fractions and Decimals

4) Read at least half-an-hour each day. In a week, you should read 4-6 full articles from periodicals of your choice, and multiple chapters from your books. As you read, note grammatical structures, and look up and write down any words you don't know.

5) In Magoosh's GRE Vocabulary Flashcards, look over the next 50 words. I suggest doing 10 words each day. Each day, review at least some of your flashcard decks.

6) In Magoosh's GRE Math Flashcards, continue reviewing the Geometry deck. Continue to review the previous decks. Do a little review with these each day.

7) *GMAT Official Guide* (any edition)

- In Section 7.4, Reading Comprehension Practice Questions, read the next RC passage and answer the associated questions

- In Section 8.4, Critical Reasoning Practice Questions, answer the next five CR questions

8) In Magoosh, do the following problems

- 25 Multiple Choice math problems
- 10 Quantitative Comparison math problems
- 10 Multiple Answer math problems
- 20 Text Completion verbal questions
- 10 Sentence Equivalence questions
- 15 Reading Comprehension questions

Week Six, Day Six

In the *GRE Official Guide*:

- a) in Official Guide, do the Verbal Reasoning Practice Sets 1-6
- b) in Official Guide, do the Quantitative Reasoning Practice Sets 1-4

Treat this as a quasi-mock GRE. Do consecutive batches of 2-3 set without interruption, to simulate more effectively a real GRE. Set a timer for the time limits. Here are the time limits to observe:

- Official Guide Verbal Reasoning Set 1 = 12 minutes
- Official Guide Verbal Reasoning Set 2 = 15 minutes
- Official Guide Verbal Reasoning Set 3 = 12 minutes
- Official Guide Verbal Reasoning Set 4 = 15 minutes
- Official Guide Verbal Reasoning Set 5 = 14 minutes
- Official Guide Verbal Reasoning Set 6 = 16 minutes
- Official Guide Quantitative Reasoning Set 1 = 22 minutes
- Official Guide Quantitative Reasoning Set 2 = 23 minutes
- Official Guide Quantitative Reasoning Set 4 = 11 minutes

In addition, do this section. This last section consists of HARD math questions. If you want a challenge, do it with the time constraints, but if you are not looking for an extra mathematical challenge, then just go through these problems untimed.

- Official Guide Quantitative Reasoning Set 3 (24 minutes)

After you are done, check all your answers. For any question you got right, skim the explanation to verify that you got it right for the right reason. For any question you got wrong, read the explanation thorough, taking notes in your journal on any concepts you didn't understand and anything about the question format that psyched you out. You can also watch [the Magoosh Video Explanations of the OG practice questions](#).

Week Seven:

1) In Magoosh, watch the following videos

- The Geometry module
- The Text Completion – Double Blanks module

2) In *McGraw Hill's Conquering the New GRE Math*

- Do the Arithmetic Computation Test 1, as well as the Solved GRE Problems and the GRE Practice Problems that follow it.

3) In the *Manhattan GRE 5-lb Book of Practice Problems*:

- Do Ch. 12 Percents

4) Read at least half-an-hour each day. In a week, you should read 4-6 full articles from periodicals of your choice, and multiple chapters from your books. As you read, note grammatical structures, and look up and write down any words you don't know.

5) In Magoosh's GRE Vocabulary Flashcards, look over the next 50 words. I suggest doing 10 words each day. Each day, review at least some of your flashcard decks.

6) In Magoosh's GRE Math Flashcards, start learning the Number Properties I deck. Continue to review the previous decks. Do a little review with these each day.

7) *GMAT Official Guide* (any edition)

- In Section 7.4, Reading Comprehension Practice Questions, read the next RC passage and answer the associated questions
- In Section 8.4, Critical Reasoning Practice Questions, answer the next five CR questions

8) In Magoosh, do the following problems

- 25 Multiple Choice math problems
- 10 Quantitative Comparison math problems
- 10 Numeric Entry math problems
- 20 Text Completion verbal questions
- 10 Sentence Equivalence questions
- 15 Reading Comprehension questions

9) In the Manhattan GRE series,

- Read Volume 4: Number Properties, and do all the practice problems as you work through the book.

10) In the *Official GRE Verbal Reasoning Practice Questions* book

- In Ch. 6, do the Mixed Practice Set I, starting on p. 102. Correct your work when you are done.

Week Seven, Day Six

See note for Week 2, item #9.

Week Eight:

1) In Magoosh, watch the following videos

- The Coordinate Geometry module
- The Text Completion – Triple Blanks module

2) In *McGraw Hill's Conquering the New GRE Math*

- Continue reading Chapter 8, through to the section "Motion and Work Problems." Do the three associated sets of Practice Problems in that stretch.

3) In the *Manhattan GRE 5-lb Book of Practice Problems*:

- Do Ch. 13 Divisibility and Primes

4) Read at least half-an-hour each day. In a week, you should read 4-6 full articles from periodicals of your choice, and multiple chapters from your books. As you read, note grammatical structures, and look up and write down any words you don't know.

5) In Magoosh's GRE Vocabulary Flashcards, look over the next 50 words. I suggest doing 10 words each day. Each day, review at least some of your flashcard decks.

6) In Magoosh's GRE Math Flashcards, continue reviewing the Number Properties I deck. Continue to review the previous decks. Do a little review with these each day.

7) *GMAT Official Guide* (any edition)

- In Section 7.4, Reading Comprehension Practice Questions, read the next RC passage and answer the associated questions
- In Section 8.4, Critical Reasoning Practice Questions, answer the next five CR questions

8) In Magoosh, do the following problems

- 25 Multiple Choice math problems
- 10 Quantitative Comparison math problems
- 10 Multiple Answer math problems

- 20 Text Completion verbal questions
- 10 Sentence Equivalence questions
- 15 Reading Comprehension questions

Week Eight, Day Six

1) In *Barron's New GRE* book

- Take Model Test #1. Write the essays on your computer, in Word. As much as possible, try to mimic the GRE conditions. Give yourself relatively short breaks in between sections. Only eat the kinds of snacks that you are planning to bring to the real GRE. Note how your sleep the night before affects your work. Note how what you had for dinner the previous night and what you had to eat earlier that day affects your energy level and concentration. Write any observations in your journal.
- Take the whole test, and as soon as you are done, grade yourself. For whatever you got wrong, first try to figure it out yourself, and then read & study the explanations, taking notes on whatever you got wrong — whatever about the concepts or the questions format was unclear.

Week Nine:

1) In Magoosh, watch the following videos

- The Statistics module
- The Sentence Equivalence module

2) In *McGraw Hill's Conquering the New GRE Math*

- Continue reading Chapter 8, though the section "Types of Averages"; do the three associated sets of Practice Problems in that stretch.

3) In the *Manhattan GRE 5-lb Book of Practice Problems*:

- Do Ch. 14 Exponents and Roots

4) Read at least half-an-hour each day. In a week, you should read 4-6 full articles from periodicals of your choice, and multiple chapters from your books. As you read, note grammatical structures, and look up and write down any words you don't know.

5) In Magoosh's GRE Vocabulary Flashcards, look over the next 50 words. I suggest doing 10 words each day. Each day, review at least some of your flashcard decks.

6) In Magoosh's GRE Math Flashcards, start learning the Number Properties II deck. Continue to review the previous decks. Do a little review with these each day.

7) *GMAT Official Guide* (any edition)

- In Section 7.4, Reading Comprehension Practice Questions, read the next RC passage and answer the associated questions
- In Section 8.4, Critical Reasoning Practice Questions, answer the next five CR questions

8) In Magoosh, do the following problems

- 25 Multiple Choice math problems
- 10 Quantitative Comparison math problems
- 10 Data Interpretation math problems
- 20 Text Completion verbal questions
- 10 Sentence Equivalence questions
- 15 Reading Comprehension questions

9) In the Manhattan GRE series,

- Read Volume 5: Word Problems, and do all the practice problems as you work through the book.

10) In the *Official GRE Verbal Reasoning Practice Questions* book

- In Ch. 6, do the Mixed Practice Set II, starting on p. 126. Correct your work when you are done.

Week Nine, Day Six

See note for Week 2, item #9.

Week Ten:

1) In Magoosh, watch the following videos

- The Counting module
- The Vocabulary module

2) In *McGraw Hill's Conquering the New GRE Math*

- Continue reading Chapter Eight, through the section on "Simple Probability"; do the two associated sets of Practice Problems in that stretch, everything up to but not including "Arithmetic Computation Test 2."

3) In the *Manhattan GRE 5-lb Book of Practice Problems*:

- Do Ch. 15 Number Properties

4) Read at least half-an-hour each day. In a week, you should read 4-6 full articles from periodicals of your choice, and multiple chapters from your books. As you read, note grammatical structures, and look up and write down any words you don't know.

5) In Magoosh's GRE Vocabulary Flashcards, look over the next 50 words. I suggest doing 10 words each day. Each day, review at least some of your flashcard decks.

6) In Magoosh's GRE Math Flashcards, continue reviewing the Number Properties II deck. Continue to review the previous decks. Do a little review with these each day.

7) *GMAT Official Guide* (any edition)

- In Section 7.4, Reading Comprehension Practice Questions, read the next RC passage and answer the associated questions
- In Section 8.4, Critical Reasoning Practice Questions, answer the next five CR questions

8) In Magoosh, do the following problems

- 25 Multiple Choice math problems
- 10 Quantitative Comparison math problems
- 10 Data Interpretation math problems
- 20 Text Completion verbal questions
- 10 Sentence Equivalence questions
- 15 Reading Comprehension questions

Week Ten, Day Six

1) In *Barron's New GRE* book

- Take Model Test #2. Write the essays on your computer, in Word. As much as possible, try to mimic the GRE conditions. Give yourself relatively short breaks in between sections. Only eat the kinds of snacks that you are planning to bring to the real GRE. Note how your sleep the night before affects your work. Note how what you had for dinner the previous night and what you had to eat earlier that day affects your energy level and concentration. Write any observations in your journal.
- Take the whole test, and as soon as you are done, grade yourself. For whatever you got wrong, first try to figure it out yourself, and then read & study the explanations, taking notes on whatever you got wrong — whatever about the concepts or the questions format was unclear.

Week Eleven:

1) In Magoosh, watch the following videos

- The Probability module
- The Reading Comprehension module

2) In *McGraw Hill's Conquering the New GRE Math*

- Do the Arithmetic Computation Test 2, as well as the Solved GRE Problems and the GRE Practice Problems at the end of Chapter Eight.

3) In the *Manhattan GRE 5-lb Book of Practice Problems*:

- Do Ch. 16 Word Properties

4) Read at least half-an-hour each day. In a week, you should read 4-6 full articles from periodicals of your choice, and multiple chapters from your books. As you read, note grammatical structures, and look up and write down any words you don't know.

5) In Magoosh's GRE Vocabulary Flashcards, look over the next 50 words. I suggest doing 10 words each day. Each day, review at least some of your flashcard decks.

6) In Magoosh's GRE Math Flashcards, start learning the Statistics and Probability deck. Continue to review the previous decks. Do a little review with these each day.

7) *GMAT Official Guide* (any edition)

- In Section 7.4, Reading Comprehension Practice Questions, read the next RC passage and answer the associated questions
- In Section 8.4, Critical Reasoning Practice Questions, answer the next five CR questions

8) In Magoosh, do the following problems

- 25 Multiple Choice math problems
- 10 Quantitative Comparison math problems
- 10 Data Interpretation math problems

- 20 Text Completion verbal questions
- 10 Sentence Equivalence questions
- 15 Reading Comprehension questions

9) In the Manhattan GRE series,

- Read Volume 6: Quantitative Comparisons & Data Interpretation, and do all the practice problems as you work through the book.
- This is the last math volume in that series. I do not assign any more formal work from these books in this schedule, but keep these books in mind for reference. If, later in the program, you need to brush up on some topic, these six volumes are once source you can consult.

10) In the *Official GRE Verbal Reasoning Practice Questions* book

- In Ch. 6, do the Mixed Practice Set III, starting on p. 152. Correct your work when you are done.
- I will not assign anything else from this book, since we worked all the way through it, but feel free to come back to it for review.

Week Eleven, Day Six

See note for Week 2, item #9.

Week Twelve:

1) In Magoosh, watch the following videos

- The GRE Data Interpretation module
- The Advanced Quantitative Comparison Strategies module

- The Paragraph Argument module
- At this point, you should have seen each Magoosh video lesson once.

2) In *McGraw Hill's Conquering the New GRE Math*

- Begin reading Chapter Nine, through "Radical Expressions"; do the three associated sets of Practice Problems, everything up but not including "Algebra Test 2."

3) In the *Manhattan GRE 5-lb Book of Practice Problems*:

- Do Ch. 17 Two-Variable Word Properties

4) Read at least half-an-hour each day. In a week, you should read 4-6 full articles from periodicals of your choice, and multiple chapters from your books. As you read, note grammatical structures, and look up and write down any words you don't know.

5) In Magoosh's GRE Vocabulary Flashcards, look over the next 50 words. I suggest doing 10 words each day. Each day, review at least some of your flashcard decks.

6) In Magoosh's GRE Math Flashcards, continue reviewing the Statistics and Probability deck. Continue to review the previous decks. Do a little review with these each day.

7) *GMAT Official Guide* (any edition)

- In Section 7.4, Reading Comprehension Practice Questions, read the next RC passage and answer the associated questions
- In Section 8.4, Critical Reasoning Practice Questions, answer the next five CR questions

8) In Magoosh, do the following:

- If you took a full Magoosh practice test way back on Week 4, Day 6 (about eight weeks ago), then at this point, you should be close to running out of Magoosh questions. If the remaining questions are enough for you to do in a week, then do all the unanswered questions, so that you have done each Magoosh question once. At that point, you will reset all the stats in your Magoosh account, and re-do all the Magoosh questions over the next half of the plan. Many of the Magoosh students who see the biggest score increase do all the Magoosh questions more than once.
- If, at the beginning of this week, you have considerably more questions than you could finish in one week, then do a load of Magoosh questions comparable to that of Week 11, #8, and keep doing that until you have a week in which you finish

the questions. At that point, reset the stats.

Week Twelve, Day Six

1) Today, you are going to take one of the paper-based GREs in the back of the Official Guide, Practice Test #1, beginning on p. 303. For each of the essays, write the essay in a word-processing program on the computer, and keep a strict time limit. For the other sections, you can write the answers either in a word-processing program on the computer, or on paper: just don't write in the book. Observe strict time-limits for each section.

As much as possible, try to mimic the GRE conditions. Give yourself relatively short breaks in between sections. Only eat the kinds of snacks that you are planning to bring to the real GRE. Note how your sleep the night before affects your work. Note how what you had for dinner the previous night and what you had to eat earlier that day affects your energy level and concentration. Write any observations in your journal.

After you are done, check all your answers. For any question you got right, skim the explanation to verify that you got it right for the right reason. For any question you got wrong, read the explanation thorough, taking notes in your journal on any concepts you didn't understand and anything about the question format that psyched you out. You should also watch [the Magoosh video explanations for the first practice test](#), at the bottom of that page.

Week Thirteen:

1) In Magoosh, watch the following videos

At this point, you will begin re-watching the entire Magoosh lesson library. If you have been performing well in Verbal, you could skip or skim the Verbal lessons. Because you have identified as a student who struggles with math, I will recommend that you watch the Quantitative lesson videos again. As you watch, pay very close attention to what you remembered and what you understand better this time around.

- The Intro to the GRE module
- The General Math Strategies module

2) In *McGraw Hill's Conquering the New GRE Math*

- Do the Algebra Test 1, as well as the Solved GRE Problems and the GRE Practice Problems immediately following that test.

3) In the *Manhattan GRE 5-lb Book of Practice Problems*:

- Do Ch. 18 Rates and Work

4) Read at least half-an-hour each day. In a week, you should read 4-6 full articles from periodicals of your choice, and multiple chapters from your books. As you read, note grammatical structures, and look up and write down any words you don't know.

5) In Magoosh's GRE Vocabulary Flashcards, look over the next 50 words. I suggest doing 10 words each day. Each day, review at least some of your flashcard decks.

6) In Magoosh's GRE Math Flashcards, start studying the Mixed Practice I deck. Continue to review the previous decks. Do a little review with these each day.

7) *GMAT Official Guide* (any edition)

- In Section 7.4, Reading Comprehension Practice Questions, read the next RC passage and answer the associated questions
- In Section 8.4, Critical Reasoning Practice Questions, answer the next five CR questions

8) In Magoosh, do the following problems

- See the note at Week 12, #8. Starting at this week, I will assume that you finished all the Magoosh questions. If you have, start re-doing the questions with the ones below, and the ones for following weeks. If you still have unanswered Magoosh questions, finish them first, and after you reset, jump into the questions for whatever week you are on.
- 25 Multiple Choice math problems
- 10 Quantitative Comparison math problems
- 15 Text Completion verbal questions
- 10 Sentence Equivalence questions
- 15 Reading Comprehension questions

9) In the *Official GRE Quantitative Reasoning Practice Questions* book

- Skim Ch. 1-2: these should be entirely review at this point
- Do all the practice problem sets in
- Chapter 3 Arithmetic
- Chapter 4 Algebra
- Chapter 5 Geometry
- Do the problems, then correct your work

For this week, there is no formal Day Six assignment. Because you have the extra work from this book, there is no additional Day Six work. You do NOT have to do everything else before the weekend, and do the Quantitative Reasoning book only on the weekend! You get to choose how to distribute the work of the week so that it best works for you.

Week Thirteen, Day Six

See note above, in item #10.

Week Fourteen:

1) In Magoosh, re-watch the following videos

- The Arithmetic and Fractions module
- The Percents and Ratios module

2) In *McGraw Hill's Conquering the New GRE Math*

- Continue reading Chapter Eight, through the section "Factoring Algebraic Expression." Do the three associated sets of Practice Problems.

3) In the *Manhattan GRE 5-lb Book of Practice Problems*:

- Do Ch. 19 Variables-in-the-Choices Problems

4) Read at least half-an-hour each day. In a week, you should read 4-6 full articles from periodicals of your choice, and multiple chapters from your books. As you read, note grammatical structures, and look up and write down any words you don't know.

5) In Magoosh's GRE Vocabulary Flashcards, look over the next 50 words. I suggest doing 10 words each day. Each day, review at least some of your flashcard decks.

6) In Magoosh's GRE Math Flashcards, continue reviewing the Mixed Practice I deck. Continue to review the previous decks. Do a little review with these each day.

7) *GMAT Official Guide* (any edition)

- In Section 7.4, Reading Comprehension Practice Questions, read the next RC passage and answer the associated questions
- In Section 8.4, Critical Reasoning Practice Questions, answer the next five CR questions

8) In Magoosh, do the following problems

- 25 Multiple Choice math problems
- 10 Quantitative Comparison math problems
- 10 Data Interpretation math problems
- 15 Text Completion verbal questions
- 10 Sentence Equivalence questions
- 15 Reading Comprehension questions

Week Fourteen, Day Six

1) Today, you are going to take the other of the paper-based GREs in the back of the Official Guide, Practice Test #2, beginning on p. 431. For each of the essays, write the essay in a word-processing program on the computer, and keep a strict time limit. For the other sections, you can write the answers either in a word-processing program on the computer, or on

paper: just don't write in the book. Observe strict time-limits for each section.

As much as possible, try to mimic the GRE conditions. Give yourself relatively short breaks in between sections. Only eat the kinds of snacks that you are planning to bring to the real GRE. Note how your sleep the night before affects your work. Note how what you had for dinner the previous night and what you had to eat earlier that day affects your energy level and concentration. Write any observations in your journal.

After you are done, check all your answers. For any question you got right, skim the explanation to verify that you got it right for the right reason. For any question you got wrong, read the explanation thorough, taking notes in your journal on any concepts you didn't understand and anything about the question format that psyched you out. You should also watch [the Magoosh video explanations for the second practice test](#).

Week Fifteen:

1) In Magoosh, re-watch the following videos

- The Integer Properties module
- The Writing (AWA) module

2) In *McGraw Hill's Conquering the New GRE Math*

- Continue reading Chapter Nine, up to the Algebra Test 2. Do all associated sets of Practice Problems and do the Algebra Test 2.

3) In the *Manhattan GRE 5-lb Book of Practice Problems*:

- Do Ch. 20 Ratios Problems

4) Read at least half-an-hour each day. In a week, you should read 4-6 full articles from periodicals of your choice, and multiple chapters from your books. As you read, note grammatical structures, and look up and write down any words you don't know.

5) In Magoosh's GRE Vocabulary Flashcards, look over the next 50 words. I suggest doing 10 words each day. Each day, review at least some of your flashcard decks.

6) In Magoosh's GRE Math Flashcards, start studying the Mixed Practice II deck. Continue to review the previous decks. Do a little review with these each day.

7) *GMAT Official Guide* (any edition)

- In Section 7.4, Reading Comprehension Practice Questions, read the next RC passage and answer the associated questions
- In Section 8.4, Critical Reasoning Practice Questions, answer the next five CR questions

8) In Magoosh, do the following problems

- 25 Multiple Choice math problems
- 10 Quantitative Comparison math problems
- 10 Data Interpretation math problems
- 15 Text Completion verbal questions
- 10 Sentence Equivalence questions
- 15 Reading Comprehension questions

9) In the *Official GRE Quantitative Reasoning Practice Questions* book do all the practice problem sets in:

- Chapter 6 Data Analysis
- Chapter 7 Mixed Practice Sets = do all three sets
- Do the problems, then correct your work

As in Week 13, there is no formal Day Six assignment for this week. Because you have the extra work from this book, there is no additional Day Six work. You do NOT have to do everything else before the weekend, and do the Quantitative Reasoning book only on the weekend! You get to choose how to distribute the work of the week so that it best works for you.

Week Fifteen, Day Six

See the note above, in item #9.

Week Sixteen:

1) In Magoosh, re-watch the following videos

- The Algebra module
- The Text Completion – Overview module

2) In *McGraw Hill's Conquering the New GRE Math*

- In Chapter Nine, do the Solved GRE Problems and the GRE Practice Problems immediately after the "Algebra Test 2." Then, continue reading, through the section "Equations with Radicals", and do the Practice Problems at the end of that section.

3) In the *Manhattan GRE 5-lb Book of Practice Problems*:

- Do Ch. 21 Averages, Weighted Averages, Mean, and Mode Problems

4) Read at least half-an-hour each day. In a week, you should read 4-6 full articles from periodicals of your choice, and multiple chapters from your books. As you read, note grammatical structures, and look up and write down any words you don't know.

5) In Magoosh's GRE Vocabulary Flashcards, look over the next 50 words. I suggest doing 10 words each day. Each day, review at least some of your flashcard decks.

6) In Magoosh's GRE Math Flashcards, continue reviewing the Mixed Practice II deck. Continue to review the previous decks. Do a little review with these each day.

7) *GMAT Official Guide* (any edition)

- In Section 7.4, Reading Comprehension Practice Questions, read the next RC passage and answer the associated questions
- In Section 8.4, Critical Reasoning Practice Questions, answer the next five CR questions

8) In Magoosh, do the following problems

- 25 Multiple Choice math problems
- 10 Quantitative Comparison math problems
- 10 Data Interpretation math problems
- 15 Text Completion verbal questions
- 10 Sentence Equivalence questions
- 15 Reading Comprehension questions

Week Sixteen, Day Six

1) Today, you are going to take a full-length practice test, using the first of the six Manhattan GRE practice tests online (any MGRE volume you bought should give you the code to access these).

As much as possible, try to mimic the GRE conditions. Give yourself relatively short breaks in between sections. Only eat the kinds of snacks that you are planning to bring to the real GRE. Note how your sleep the night before affects your work. Note how what you had for dinner the previous night and what you had to eat earlier that day affects your energy level and concentration. Write any observations in your journal.

After you are done, check all your answers. For any question you got right, skim the explanation to verify that you got it right for the right reason. For any question you got wrong, read the explanation thorough, taking notes in your journal on any concepts you didn't understand and anything about the question format that psyched you out.

Week Seventeen:

1) In Magoosh, re-watch the following videos

- The Word Problems module
- The Text Completion – No Shift module

2) In *McGraw Hill's Conquering the New GRE Math*

- In Chapter Nine, continue reading through the section "Quadratic Equations and Inequalities," and do the three associated sets of Practice Problems.

3) In the *Manhattan GRE 5-lb Book of Practice Problems*:

- Do Ch. 22 Standard Deviation and Normal Distribution Problems

4) Read at least half-an-hour each day. In a week, you should read 4-6 full articles from periodicals of your choice, and multiple chapters from your books. As you read, note grammatical structures, and look up and write down any words you don't know.

5) In Magoosh's GRE Vocabulary Flashcards, look over the next 50 words. I suggest doing 10 words each day. Each day, review at least some of your flashcard decks.

6) In Magoosh's GRE Math Flashcards, start studying the Mixed Practice III deck. Continue to review the previous decks. Do a little review with these each day.

7) *GMAT Official Guide* (any edition)

- In Section 7.4, Reading Comprehension Practice Questions, read the next RC passage and answer the associated questions
- In Section 8.4, Critical Reasoning Practice Questions, answer the next five CR questions

8) In Magoosh, do the following problems

- 25 Multiple Choice math problems
- 10 Quantitative Comparison math problems
- 10 Numerical Entry math problems
- 15 Text Completion verbal questions
- 10 Sentence Equivalence questions
- 15 Reading Comprehension questions

Week Seventeen, Day Six

1) Today, you are going to write two essays, half an hour each. You will write an Issue essay and an Argument essay. You will be writing on the official GRE topics.

For topics, go to the [ETS GRE Issue Pool](#) and the [ETS GRE Argument Pool](#). Figure out a way to pick topics at random (maybe you print the lists, cut it into slips of paper, and choose some at random). Write the essays in a word processing program. Observe a strict 30 minute time limit for each.

Now that you have these essays, what do you do with them? If you have a friend or mentor who is a gifted writer, ask them to read the essays for you and critique them. If they are willing, you can show them the assessment criteria in the Official Guide, and ask them to follow it. If you can afford it, hire a writing coach or writing tutor: show that tutor the assessment criteria in the OG, and have them give you feedback. If you can't afford a writing tutor and can't convince anyone else to read it, you may try posting them on [TheGradCafe](#), and see whether an expert there will critique your essay. Failing any of these options, at least you can set the essays aside, and in a couple days re-read them with the Official Guide's rubric beside you. (Notice whatever route worked for you with these essays; you can repeat that with all the essays you write in the practice tests you take as part of this plan.)

2) This first time visiting these sites, it may be worthwhile to take some time to peruse all the topics, just to get a sense of the variety.

3) Writing the essays will not take much time. This day might be a good time to do a thorough review of all the flashcards you have covered so far, or to review anything in any of the Manhattan GRE books that you would like to understand better.

Week Eighteen:

1) In Magoosh, re-watch the following videos

- The Powers and Roots module
- The Text Completion – Sentence Shift module

2) In *McGraw Hill's Conquering the New GRE Math*

- Continue reading Chapter Nine, through the entire long section "Algebraic Word Problems," and do the two associated sets of Practice Problems. This is everything up to, but not including, "Algebra Test 3."

3) In the *Manhattan GRE 5-lb Book of Practice Problems*:

- Do Ch. 23 Probability, Combinatorics, and Overlapping Sets Problems

4) Read at least half-an-hour each day. In a week, you should read 4-6 full articles from periodicals of your choice, and multiple chapters from your books. As you read, note grammatical structures, and look up and write down any words you don't know.

5) In Magoosh's GRE Vocabulary Flashcards, look over the next 50 words. I suggest doing 10 words each day. Each day, review at least some of your flashcard decks.

6) In Magoosh's GRE Math Flashcards, continue reviewing the Mixed Practice III deck. Continue to review the previous decks. Do a little review with these each day.

7) *GMAT Official Guide* (any edition)

- In Section 7.4, Reading Comprehension Practice Questions, read the next RC passage and answer the associated questions
- In Section 8.4, Critical Reasoning Practice Questions, answer the next five CR questions

8) In Magoosh, do the following problems

- 25 Multiple Choice math problems
- 10 Quantitative Comparison math problems
- 10 Multiple Answer math problems
- 15 Text Completion verbal questions
- 10 Sentence Equivalence questions
- 15 Reading Comprehension questions

Week Eighteen, Day Six

1) Today, you are going to take a full-length practice test, using another of the six Manhattan GRE practice tests online.

As much as possible, try to mimic the GRE conditions. Give yourself relatively short breaks in between sections. Only eat the kinds of snacks that you are planning to bring to the real GRE. Note how your sleep the night before affects your work. Note how what you had for dinner the previous night and what you had to eat earlier that day affects your energy level and concentration. Write any observations in your journal.

After you are done, check all your answers. For any question you got right, skim the explanation to verify that you got it right for the right reason. For any question you got wrong, read the explanation thorough, taking notes in your journal on any concepts you didn't understand and anything about the question format that psyched you out.

Week Nineteen:

1) In Magoosh, re-watch the following videos

- The Geometry module
- The Text Completion – Double Blanks module

2) In *McGraw Hill's Conquering the New GRE Math*

- In Chapter Nine, do the Algebra Test 3, as well as the Solved GRE Problems and the GRE Practice Problems at the end of the chapter.

3) In the *Manhattan GRE 5-lb Book of Practice Problems*:

- Do Ch. 24 Data Interpretation Problems

4) Read at least half-an-hour each day. In a week, you should read 4-6 full articles from periodicals of your choice, and multiple chapters from your books. As you read, note grammatical structures, and look up and write down any words you don't know.

5) In Magoosh's GRE Vocabulary Flashcards, look over the next 50 words. I suggest doing 10 words each day. Each day, review at least some of your flashcard decks.

6) In Magoosh's GRE Math Flashcards, start studying the Mixed Practice IV deck. Continue to review the previous decks. Do a little review with these each day.

7) *GMAT Official Guide* (any edition)

- In Section 7.4, Reading Comprehension Practice Questions, read the next RC passage and answer the associated questions
- In Section 8.4, Critical Reasoning Practice Questions, answer the next five CR questions

8) In Magoosh, do the following problems

- 25 Multiple Choice math problems
- 10 Quantitative Comparison math problems
- 10 Numeric Entry math problems
- 15 Text Completion verbal questions
- 10 Sentence Equivalence questions
- 15 Reading Comprehension questions

Week Nineteen, Day Six

1) Today, you are going to write two more essays, half an hour each. You will write an Issue essay and an Argument essay. Again, you will be writing on the official GRE topics.

For topics, go to the [ETS GRE Issue Pool](#) and the [ETS GRE Argument Pool](#). Figure out a way to pick topics at random (maybe you print the lists, cut it into slips of paper, and choose some at random). Write the essays in a word processing program. Observe a strict 30 minute time limit for each.

Once you are done, use the whatever review process worked for the other essays.

2) Writing the essays will not take much time. This day might be a good time to do a thorough review of all the flashcards you have covered so far, or to review anything in any of the Manhattan GRE books that you would like to understand better.

Week Twenty:

1) In Magoosh, re-watch the following videos

- The Coordinate Geometry module
- The Text Completion – Triple Blanks module

2) In *McGraw Hill's Conquering the New GRE Math*

- Read Chapter Ten, through the section "Triangles," and do the three associated sets of Practice Problems.

3) In the *Manhattan GRE 5-lb Book of Practice Problems*:

- Do Ch. 25 Polygon and Rectangular Solids Problems

4) Read at least half-an-hour each day. In a week, you should read 4-6 full articles from periodicals of your choice, and multiple chapters from your books. As you read, note grammatical structures, and look up and write down any words you don't know.

5) In Magoosh's GRE Vocabulary Flashcards, look over the next 50 words. I suggest doing 10 words each day. Each day, review at least some of your flashcard decks.

6) In Magoosh's GRE Math Flashcards, continue review the Mixed Practice IV deck. Continue to review the previous decks. Do a little review with these each day.

7) *GMAT Official Guide* (any edition)

- In Section 7.4, Reading Comprehension Practice Questions, read the next RC passage and answer the associated questions
- In Section 8.4, Critical Reasoning Practice Questions, answer the next five CR questions

8) In Magoosh, do the following problems

- 25 Multiple Choice math problems
- 10 Quantitative Comparison math problems
- 10 Multiple Answer math problems
- 15 Text Completion verbal questions
- 10 Sentence Equivalence questions
- 15 Reading Comprehension questions

Week Twenty, Day Six

1) Today, you are going to take a full-length practice test, using another of the six Manhattan GRE practice tests online. From this point forward, through the end of the plan, every Day Six will be a practice GRE on the computer.

As much as possible, try to mimic the GRE conditions. Give yourself relatively short breaks in between sections. Only eat the kinds of snacks that you are planning to bring to the real GRE. Note how your sleep the night before affects your work. Note how what you had for dinner the previous night and what you had to eat earlier that day affects your energy level and concentration. Write any observations in your journal.

After you are done, check all your answers. For any question you got right, skim the explanation to verify that you got it right for the right reason. For any question you got wrong, read the explanation thorough, taking notes in your journal on any concepts you didn't understand and anything about the question format that psyched you out.

Week Twenty One:

1) In Magoosh, re-watch the following videos

- The Sentence Explanation module

2) In *McGraw Hill's Conquering the New GRE Math*

- Continue reading Chapter Ten, through the section "Circles," and do the three associated sets of Practice Problems.

3) In the *Manhattan GRE 5-lb Book of Practice Problems*:

- Do Ch. 26 Circles and Cylinders Solids Problems

4) Read at least half-an-hour each day. In a week, you should read 4-6 full articles from periodicals of your choice, and multiple chapters from your books. As you read, note grammatical structures, and look up and write down any words you don't know.

5) In Magoosh's GRE Vocabulary Flashcards, look over the next 50 words. I suggest doing 10 words each day. Each day, review at least some of your flashcard decks.

6) In Magoosh's GRE Math Flashcards, start studying the Mixed Practice V deck. Continue to review the previous decks. Do a little review with these each day.

7) *GMAT Official Guide* (any edition)

- In Section 7.4, Reading Comprehension Practice Questions, read the next RC passage and answer the associated questions
- In Section 8.4, Critical Reasoning Practice Questions, answer the next five CR questions

8) In Magoosh, do the following problems

- 25 Multiple Choice math problems
- 10 Quantitative Comparison math problems
- 10 Data Interpretation math problems
- 15 Text Completion verbal questions
- 10 Sentence Equivalence questions
- 15 Reading Comprehension questions

Week Twenty One, Day Six

1) Today, you are going to take a full-length practice test, using another of the six Manhattan GRE practice tests online.

As much as possible, try to mimic the GRE conditions. Give yourself relatively short breaks in between sections. Only eat the kinds of snacks that you are planning to bring to the real GRE. Note how your sleep the night before affects your work. Note how what you had for dinner the previous night and what you had to eat earlier that day affects your energy level and concentration. Write any observations in your journal.

After you are done, check all your answers. For any question you got right, skim the explanation to verify that you got it right for the right reason. For any question you got wrong, read the explanation thorough, taking notes in your journal on any concepts you didn't understand and anything about the question format that psyched you out.

Week Twenty Two:

1) In Magoosh, re-watch the following videos

- The Counting module
- The Vocabulary module

2) In *McGraw Hill's Conquering the New GRE Math*

- Continue reading Chapter Ten, through the section "Coordinate Geometry," and do the two associated sets of Practice Problems. This will be everything up to, but not including, the "Geometry Test."

3) In the *Manhattan GRE 5-lb Book of Practice Problems*:

- Do Ch. 27 Triangles Problems

4) Read at least half-an-hour each day. In a week, you should read 4-6 full articles from periodicals of your choice, and multiple chapters from your books. As you read, note grammatical structures, and look up and write down any words you don't know.

5) In Magoosh's GRE Vocabulary Flashcards, look over the next 50 words. I suggest doing 10 words each day. Each day, review at least some of your flashcard decks.

6) In Magoosh's GRE Math Flashcards, continue reviewing the Mixed Practice V deck. Continue to review the previous decks. Do a little review with these each day.

7) *GMAT Official Guide* (any edition)

- In Section 7.4, Reading Comprehension Practice Questions, read the next RC passage and answer the associated questions
- In Section 8.4, Critical Reasoning Practice Questions, answer the next five CR questions

8) In Magoosh, do the following problems

- 25 Multiple Choice math problems
- 10 Quantitative Comparison math problems
- 10 Data Interpretation math problems
- 15 Text Completion verbal questions
- 10 Sentence Equivalence questions
- 15 Reading Comprehension questions

Week Twenty Two, Day Six

1) Today, you are going to take a full-length practice test, using another of the six Manhattan GRE practice tests online.

As much as possible, try to mimic the GRE conditions. Give yourself relatively short breaks in between sections. Only eat the kinds of snacks that you are planning to bring to the real GRE. Note how your sleep the night before affects your work. Note how what you had for dinner the previous night and what you had to eat earlier that day affects your energy level and concentration. Write any observations in your journal.

After you are done, check all your answers. For any question you got right, skim the explanation to verify that you got it right for the right reason. For any question you got wrong, read the explanation thorough, taking notes in your journal on any

concepts you didn't understand and anything about the question format that psyched you out.

Week Twenty Three:

1) In Magoosh, re-watch the following videos

- The Probability module
- The Reading Comprehension module

2) In *McGraw Hill's Conquering the New GRE Math*

- Do the Geometry Test as well as the Solved GRE Problems and the GRE Practice Problems at the end of Chapter Ten.

3) In the *Manhattan GRE 5-lb Book of Practice Problems*:

- Do Ch. 28 Coordinate Geometry Problems

4) Read at least half-an-hour each day. In a week, you should read 4-6 full articles from periodicals of your choice, and multiple chapters from your books. As you read, note grammatical structures, and look up and write down any words you don't know.

5) In Magoosh's GRE Vocabulary Flashcards, look over the next 50 words. I suggest doing 10 words each day. Each day, review at least some of your flashcard decks.

6) In Magoosh's GRE Math Flashcards, start studying the Mixed Practice VI deck. Continue to review the previous decks. Do a little review with these each day.

7) *GMAT Official Guide* (any edition)

- In Section 7.4, Reading Comprehension Practice Questions, read the next RC passage and answer the associated questions
- In Section 8.4, Critical Reasoning Practice Questions, answer the next five CR questions

8) In Magoosh, do the following problems

- 25 Multiple Choice math problems
- 10 Quantitative Comparison math problems
- 10 Data Interpretation math problems
- 15 Text Completion verbal questions
- 10 Sentence Equivalence questions
- 15 Reading Comprehension questions

Week Twenty Three, Day Six

1) Today, you are going to take a full-length practice test, using the last of the six Manhattan GRE practice tests online.

As much as possible, try to mimic the GRE conditions. Give yourself relatively short breaks in between sections. Only eat the kinds of snacks that you are planning to bring to the real GRE. Note how your sleep the night before affects your work. Note how what you had for dinner the previous night and what you had to eat earlier that day affects your energy level and concentration. Write any observations in your journal.

After you are done, check all your answers. For any question you got right, skim the explanation to verify that you got it right for the right reason. For any question you got wrong, read the explanation thorough, taking notes in your journal on any concepts you didn't understand and anything about the question format that psyched you out.

Week Twenty Four:

1) In Magoosh, re-watch the following videos

- The GRE Data Interpretation module
- The Advanced Quantitative Comparison Strategies module
- The Paragraph Analysis module

2) In *McGraw Hill's Conquering the New GRE Math*

(a) Review whatever sections you feel you need to review

(b) In one 35-minute sitting, do GRE Math Practice Section 2.

3) In the *Manhattan GRE 5-lb Book of Practice Problems*:

- Do Ch. 29 Mixed Geometry Problems

4) Read at least half-an-hour each day. In a week, you should read 4-6 full articles from periodicals of your choice, and multiple chapters from your books. As you read, note grammatical structures, and look up and write down any words you don't know.

5) In Magoosh's GRE Vocabulary Flashcards, look over the next 50 words. I suggest doing 10 words each day. Each day, review at least some of your flashcard decks.

6) In Magoosh's GRE Math Flashcards, continue reviewing the Mixed Practice VI deck. Continue to review the previous decks. Do a little review with these each day.

7) *GMAT Official Guide* (any edition)

- In Section 7.4, Reading Comprehension Practice Questions, read the next RC passage and answer the associated questions
- In Section 8.4, Critical Reasoning Practice Questions, answer the next five CR questions

8) In Magoosh, do the following problems

- 25 Multiple Choice math problems
- 10 Quantitative Comparison math problems
- 10 Data Interpretation math problems
- 15 Text Completion verbal questions
- 10 Sentence Equivalence questions
- 15 Reading Comprehension questions

Week Twenty Four, Day Six

1) Today, you are going to take another full length practice test, the first practice GRE available through the GRE PowerPrep software.

As much as possible, try to mimic the GRE conditions. Give yourself relatively short breaks in between sections. Only eat the kinds of snacks that you are planning to bring to the real GRE. Note how your sleep the night before affects your work. Note how what you had for dinner the previous night and what you had to eat earlier that day affects your energy level and concentration. Write any observations in your journal.

After you are done, check all your answers. For any question you got right, skim the explanation to verify that you got it right for the right reason. For any question you got wrong, read the explanation thorough, taking notes in your journal on any concepts you didn't understand and anything about the question format that psyched you out.

Week Twenty Five:

1) In Magoosh, re-watch the any video lessons that you think you need to review or understand in greater depth.

2) In *McGraw Hill's Conquering the New GRE Math*

(a) Review whatever sections you feel you need to review

(b) In one 35-minute sitting, do GRE Math Practice Section 3.

3) In the *Manhattan GRE 5-lb Book of Practice Problems*:

- In Ch. 33 Math Practice Sessions, do Math Practice Session #1: Easy Difficulty and, on another day, Math Practice Session #2: Medium Difficulty. Do those two with strict time limits, and don't touch a calculator.

4) Read at least half-an-hour each day. In a week, you should read 4-6 full articles from periodicals of your choice, and multiple chapters from your books. As you read, note grammatical structures, and look up and write down any words you don't know.

5) In Magoosh's GRE Vocabulary Flashcards, look over the next 50 words. I suggest doing 10 words each day. Each day, review at least some of your flashcard decks.

6) In Magoosh's GRE Math Flashcards, continue reviewing all the decks. Do a little review with these each day.

7) *GMAT Official Guide* (any edition)

- In Section 7.4, Reading Comprehension Practice Questions, read the last RC passage and answer the associated questions
- In Section 8.4, Critical Reasoning Practice Questions, answer the remaining CR questions

8) In Magoosh, do the following problems

- 25 Multiple Choice math problems
- 10 Quantitative Comparison math problems
- 15 Text Completion verbal questions
- 10 Sentence Equivalence questions
- 15 Reading Comprehension questions

NOTE: *if you reset at week 12, and have been working continually since then, you may be about out of unanswered questions again.*

Week Twenty Five, Day Six

1) Today, you are going to take your last full length practice test, the second practice GRE available through the GRE PowerPrep software.

As much as possible, try to mimic the GRE conditions. Give yourself relatively short breaks in between sections. Only eat the kinds of snacks that you are planning to bring to the real GRE. Note how your sleep the night before affects your work. Note

how what you had for dinner the previous night and what you had to eat earlier that day affects your energy level and concentration. Write any observations in your journal.

After you are done, check all your answers. For any question you got right, skim the explanation to verify that you got it right for the right reason. For any question you got wrong, read the explanation thorough, taking notes in your journal on any concepts you didn't understand and anything about the question format that psyched you out.

After Week 25: Concentrated Review

At this point, if you have been following the schedule, you should have done every question in just about every book at least once. For whatever days remain before the test, keep up work on GRE math and verbal. Some suggestions for what to do:

- 1) Through selecting question type & difficulty on the "Dashboard", do Magoosh problems over again, and see how you do this time.
- 2) Keep watching for an additional time 5-10 Magoosh lesson videos a week, on whatever topics you feel you need to review
- 3) Keep reading your challenging material, to build vocabulary and acclimate your ear to eloquent style.
- 4) Keep drilling your vocab flashcards and your math flashcards.
- 5) In the *Manhattan GRE 5-lb Book of Practice Problems*, I didn't assign the final Ch. 33 Practice Set, the "Hard Difficulty" set. If you are ambitious, you could try this as another timed section. If not, at least work those problem untimed, for further practice.
- 6) Re-read any topics in the Manhattan GRE books or in McGraw-Hill's *Conquering the New GRE Math* — any topics where you feel you would benefit from further review.

Day before the test:

1. No GRE preparation all day
2. Eat a large, healthy, leisurely dinner – no alcohol!
3. Go to bed earlier than usual.

Day of test

1. ABSOLUTELY NO LAST MINUTE GRE PREPARATION!
2. Eat a large breakfast, full of protein
3. Do relaxing, fun activities to pass time until the test

Bring to the test

1. A liter of water
2. Healthy energy-packed snacks (nuts, protein bar, etc.)
3. On breaks, make sure to get up, move & stretch – moving & stretching the large muscles of the body (legs & torso) will get oxygen flowing throughout, which will help keep you awake and keep you thinking clearly.

Any questions on this plan? Just leave us a comment!

More from Magoosh

- [6 Month GRE Study Plan \(Advanced Math\)](#)
- [90 Day GRE Study Plan for Beginners](#)
- [90 Day GRE Study Plan \(Math Focused\)](#)
- [90 Day GRE Study Plan \(Verbal Focused\)](#)

By the way, students who use Magoosh GRE improve their scores by an average of 8 points on the new scale (150 points on the old scale.) [Click here](#) to learn more.

About Mike McGarry

Mike creates expert lessons and practice questions to guide GMAT students to success. He has a BS in Physics and an MA in Religion, both from Harvard, and over 20 years of teaching experience specializing in math, science, and standardized exams. Mike likes smashing foosballs into orbit, and despite having no obvious cranial deficiency, he insists on rooting for the NY Mets.

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24 Responses to *6 Month GRE Study Plan for Math Beginners*



Diksha May 21, 2013 at 8:38 pm #

Hi

I am fairly good at math but need a vocab centric study plan. Can you recommend a plan similar to the 6 month plan for math beginners – but focused on verbal and essay writing instead.

Thanks



Mike May 22, 2013 at 10:06 am #

Diksha,

If you are really good at math, you might try to the Six Month: Advanced Math plan. Either with this one or with the other, you get a tremendous amount of verbal review, so don't worry about that. Also, if verbal is a challenge for you, I would highly recommend: go through every single article on this blog written by my friend Chris. He is a verbal guru. His Vocab Wednesday videos are a fantastic way to build vocabulary. His verbal lessons inside the Magoosh product will also help you immensely.

Does all this make sense?

Mike 😊



Diksha May 29, 2013 at 5:53 pm #

It does make sense. I have started reading the blogs by Chris.

Had one question for you – would you say 161 in math a good score?? I wouldn't. So do you suggest me following the beginners in math study plan along with the one focused on verbal. I know my verbal is the one that needs real practice. I scored 153 and that did not get me anywhere this year – need a great score this year so I can go to college for sure next year.

Also is there a way some one can evaluate the AWA practice I do?

I know its too much – but can some one evaluate my statement too? Or if you can point me to a website who can help me further on this.

Thanks a lot for your help.



Mike May 29, 2013 at 6:56 pm #

Dear Diksha,

Well, 161 is not great as a "final product" result, but as a checkpoint along the way, it's not bad. Furthermore, you originally identified yourself as "fairly good at math", which strongly suggests to me that you will pick up the math quickly. I would still suggest using the "Advanced Math" version, to challenge yourself. I think you want to really stretch yourself and reach for excellence in math, to help balance your verbal score. That's why following the Advanced Math plan is so important for you. As far as finding someone to evaluate your AWA, that's hard. You might hire a writing tutor, share with that person the ETS guidelines, and pay that person to "grade" your writing and review it with you. Short of that, see what I recommend on Week 3, Day 6 — try posting the AWA on the free GMAT forums, and perhaps someone will read it there.

I hope all this helps.

Mike 😊



Bob August 25, 2012 at 11:50 am #

hi there,

I am planning to take the GRE in about 4 months. For the programmes I am planning to apply to it is mainly the quant score that matters and not the verbal score so I will concentrate on the quant part. Right now I am looking for the right Prep books. You have listed the GMAT OG 12th edition for additional exercises. I just saw that there is new edition of that book. Which one would you say is better for GRE preparation.

Generally are GMAT quant questions good practice for the GRE as well? (I still have the ManhattanGMAT advanced quant book from when I took the GMAT two years ago, however I sold the GMAT OG 12th edition that I had)

Can you recommend any other good books that offer lots of quant practice. I will buy the ManhattanGRE books to make sure I get the concepts but I am still looking for more quant practice questions, preferably the harder ones.



Mike August 25, 2012 at 2:39 pm #

Yes, there is now the OG13 — for your purposes, it really doesn't matter which one you get — you might be able to find the OG12, or even an earlier edition, for much cheaper because it's not current. GMAT Problem Solving questions tend to be a little more sophisticated than GRE MC, so in that sense it's excellent practice. Normally, I would tell GRE students not to bother learning the GMAT DS question type, but since you appear to know it already, that's an excellent format in which to practice all kinds of sophisticated mathematical thought. — For more resources, see the 90 day plans, versions C & D — in particular, the NOVA book has some very challenging practice problems. The MGMAT Advanced Quant is also great. — I would say — if you learn everything in those two books and the GMAT OG and in the MGRE math books, you will be in excellent shape for the GRE!

Mike 😊



bob August 26, 2012 at 6:09 am #

Thanks alot Mike 😊

I just checked for the Nova book. The one in the study plans C and D is linked to the book review which is for the nova book for the old GRE.

Nova now seems to have released both the gre prep course and the gre math prep course also for the new GRE format. Are they both worth buying or should I stick to one of them (do you know if there is any overlap between them?)

I am also thinking of signing up with Magoosh. Does Magoosh offer an interactive study plan? It would be

nice to have something more than an excel sheet to track my progress.

Cheers



Mike August 26, 2012 at 10:23 pm #

Since you are more concerned with Quant, just get the GRE Math Prep course. Within the Magoosh product, there's not an interactive study plan, but the system certainly tracks your progress with the Magoosh questions, and at any time, you can get a bird's eye view of where you are with them. With the OG questions & other books, I guess I was imagining you would just have a few "stickies" bookmarks that would keep advancing as you completed those problems. Probably no need for an excel spreadsheet. (Those of us born decades before the advent of the internet tend to think that low-tech solutions to basic issues are sometimes far more effective.) 😊

Mike 😊



bob August 27, 2012 at 4:43 am #

Thanks again Mike !

I guess you are right sometimes pen and paper is the easiest way to go. Too much technology might just be an unnecessary distraction 😊



Mike August 27, 2012 at 9:50 am #

You are quite welcome. Best of luck to you!

Mike 😊



Phil August 11, 2012 at 4:09 pm #

Good day,

I REALLY need your help.

I would like to prepare myself for the GRE and don't know where to begin. I'm thinking about taking the test in about 8 months and am an absolute beginner when it comes to math and basically need to prepare for all the different areas of the test.

I would really appreciate it if you could e-mail me and tell me about your program, cost and any other information you think might be helpful.

Thank you very much for your time and I'm looking forward to getting started.

Great website – thakns!



Margarett August 13, 2012 at 4:02 pm #

Hi, Phil

Just sent you an e-mail! 😊

Best,
Margarett



Sanjna July 20, 2012 at 9:17 pm #

Hi Mike!

This looks like a great plan! but this plan involves only having the MGRE books optionally. But most of us do have the complete series. Could you sketch out a rough study plan involving the MGRE series as well?

Thanks for the great work!

Sanjna 😊



Mike July 30, 2012 at 11:47 am #

Dear Sanjna: Actually, the MGRE books are only recommended as a supplemental resource, not an integral part of our plan. You are on your own to use those books as you see fit. Because we don't view them as essential, we are not going to outline a full-blown study plan for them.

Mike 😊



Paola May 3, 2012 at 10:08 pm #

Hi there,

I have been looking at your resources (website, blog, free trial etc) since late last year to begin my studying in June [I will be grad. with a B.Sc.then]. Awesome work!! I have a question about the reading recommendations. Must you actually subscribe to these websites or magazines? For example, I see that The Economist would be about 71.25 for 25 weeks. Can you simply keep up with the readings they have posted on their sites for free daily, i.e. <http://www.economist.com/node/21553457> ?

I'm just wondering because I've briefly read all your wonderful recommendations, including your recent Vocab PDF booklet (which, thanks by the way), and well...I feel overwhelmed with all the material to select from (i.e. The New York Times, The New Yorker, The Economist, Scientific American, The Best American Series, the National

Geographic etc.

Al though, I graduate I will still have access to my university's library resources. Do you know any of any of the recommended that can be substituted with what a University Library may offer?

Thanks a bunches team Magoosh...I will be looking forward to signing up with you guys soon.

Paola



Mike May 4, 2012 at 2:17 pm #

Paola: I would say, if you will continue to have access to a university library, by all means milk that for all it's worth! 😊 They must get some good periodicals and newspapers. The free articles from websites like the one you cited would also be helpful. What's important is that you are regularly stretching yourself with challenging non-fiction reading, and these two options should provide plenty of fodder for that. We look forward to serving you in the future.

Mike 😊



Paola May 4, 2012 at 5:23 pm #

Thank you!!!



Mike May 6, 2012 at 10:43 am #

You are quite welcome. Best of luck to you.

Mike 😊



Ami March 31, 2012 at 5:43 pm #

Hi –

I graduated from college in 98 and haven't used my "school brain" since, sadly! I want to take the time to re-learn the math I've forgotten but I also need work on vocab. I am the mom of four kids and money is always an issue – could you let me know roughly how much this six month program, purchasing the materials you have suggested, will cost? Or if there are items that would be best to start with if you can't purchase everything at once? Any advice you can provide would be greatly appreciated!

Thanks so much!

Ami



Margarette April 2, 2012 at 11:27 am #

Hi, Ami

Here are the essentials (luckily, everything but the first two items are free :)):

Magoosh GRE Prep: <http://gre.magoosh.com>

ETS's Official Guide to the GRE book: http://www.amazon.com/Official-Guide-revised-General-Test/dp/0071700528/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1333391089&sr=8-1

ETS's PowerPrep Software

a journal or notebook

Notecards (or Quizlet.com)

WordSmart (or Wordnik.com)

Recommended magazines: Scientific American, Atlantic Monthly, The New Yorker, National Geographic, The Economist

Additionally, you should be able to find most of the other books (which I would consider supplemental/optional) listed on Amazon for very cheap if you buy them used.

The daily steps for the books/websites I've listed are crucial, and the ones that include the other material (McGraw Hill, GMAT OG, etc.) are just for extra practice, so even with just the the material I've listed above, you should have plenty of study material to work with.

I hope that helps! Feel free to let us know if you have any other questions.

Best,
Margarette



Daniel March 21, 2012 at 7:03 am #

This plan is great!!

I'll definitely follow the beginner's path. Yet, there is something I would like to ask you guys.

In order to follow your Study Plan, should I buy the new edition of the books you are recommending ?

When I click the link to buy the OG through Amazon.com, it says that there is a newer version of the book (purple front cover. 2nd Edition). Which should I buy?

Thanks



Mike March 21, 2012 at 1:53 pm #

Daniel: all these current plans are designed to with the first edition, the current edition. When are you planning to take the GRE? The 2nd ed doesn't come out until, I believe, August -- you can pre-order it now, but that's a long wait.. When the 2nd edition is released, we will update these plans accordingly. If you are taking the GRE any time in the next 3-4 months, then use the current edition of the OG, because the 2nd edition won't even be out yet.

I hope this helps. Let me know if you have any further questions.

Mike 😊



Sally March 13, 2012 at 3:38 pm #

This looks like a GREAT plan for me. Thank you! I was following the older recommended GRE 6-month plan, but I think this is more attuned to my needs. I'm a busy mom returning to pursue a PhD and really need a study plan that targets my weaknesses (essentially, math). I'll give this plan a shot and let you know how it works out.

Thank you again!



Mike McGarry March 14, 2012 at 11:36 am #

You are quite welcome. Thank you for your kind words. Please let us know however we may support you. A busy mom going back for a Ph.D! Very cool! More power to you!

Mike 😊

Magoosh blog comment policy: To create the best experience for our readers, we will only approve comments that are relevant to the article, general enough to be helpful to other students, concise, and well-written! 😊 Due to the high

volume of comments across all of our blogs, we cannot promise that all comments will receive responses from our instructors.

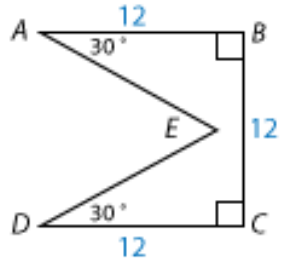
We highly encourage students to help each other out and respond to other students' comments if you can!

If you are a Premium Magoosh student and would like more personalized service from our instructors, you can use the Help tab on the Magoosh dashboard. Thanks!





GRE MATH Challenge Question



What is the perimeter of $ABCDE$?

a $36 + 6\sqrt{3}$

d $36 + 12\sqrt{3}$

b 48

e 60

c $36 + 8\sqrt{3}$

[See Answer](#)



Study Plans and Schedules

- [1 Week Study Schedule](#)
- [1 Month Study Schedule \(Daily\)](#)
- [1 Month Study Schedule \(Weekly\)](#)
- [60-90 Day Study Schedule \(Weekly\)](#)
- [90 Day \(Beginners / Daily\)](#)
- [90 Day \(Math Focused / Daily\)](#)

- [90 Day \(Verbal Focused / Daily\)](#)
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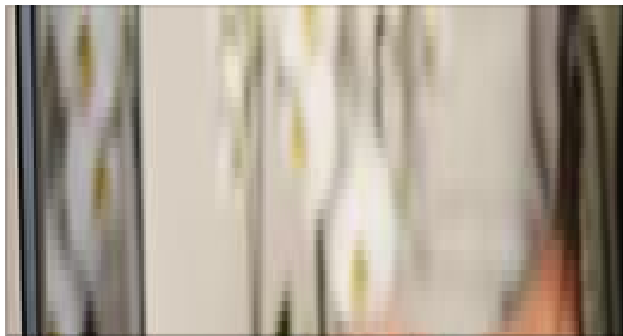
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