

Revision planning template

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A blank eight-week revision planner with spaced repetition slots and past-paper milestones, sized to the June and November Cambridge exam series.

An eight-week blank revision planner with the structure built in: spaced review slots, past-paper milestones and rest, ready to fill in for any exam series.

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The template is an eight-week revision grid for one subject, with the structure pre-marked so a student only has to fill in topics. It assumes revision starts eight weeks before the first paper, which is the runway that works for most IGCSE, A-Level and IB subjects.

Two features are built in. Spaced review: every topic learned in one week is revisited briefly in later weeks, because revisiting is what moves material into lasting memory. Past-paper milestones: real papers under time conditions in weeks five, six and seven, because technique is trained on papers, not notes.

The grid is sized to the Cambridge exam series, which run in June (exams held May and June, results in August) and November (exams held October and November, results in mid-January). Count eight weeks back from your child's first paper and start there; IB and A-Level families can use exactly the same grid against their own timetables.

Work in this order. First, list every topic on the syllabus down the side of the grid; the syllabus document or textbook contents page gives you the list. Second, mark each topic confident, shaky or new, honestly. Third, allocate topics to weeks, front-loading the shaky and new ones, because they need the most revisit slots later.

Keep sessions short and daily rather than long and occasional: forty minutes a day beats four hours on Sunday. And leave one day a week empty on purpose; a plan with no slack collapses at the first birthday party.

The template's eight weeks follow this shape:

Read one mark scheme to learn what examiners reward

The eight-week revision structure built into the template.

A hypothetical example: a Year 11 student sits IGCSE mathematics in the June series. Eight weeks before the first paper, she lists the syllabus topics, marks algebra and trigonometry as shaky, and puts them in weeks 1 and 2. Week 5's full paper shows marks leaking on "show that" questions, so week 6 targets exactly those. She walks in having sat three full timed papers, while her revision looked, from the outside, almost calm.

The method behind the grid is expanded in our guides to building a revision timetable and using past papers properly, and reviewing mock exam mistakes shows how to mine each marked paper for the next week's work. Families who want a tutor to run this process can read the exam preparation page.

The PDF contains the blank grid above with topic rows, tick boxes for review slots and space for paper scores, one page per subject. Print one per subject per exam series.

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Cambridge International: Cambridge AICE Diploma qualification page (exam series in June and November; results in August and January)

How the week 5 to 7 milestones should be marked and mined.

Tutored support for IGCSE, A-Level and IB exam series.

