

Mag^{✓✓}sh

2 Month SAT Study Schedule

What's included:

- A study plan designed to help you review and practice for test day
- Eight weeks of study material
- Free video lessons and resources



Table of Contents

[Introduction](#)

[How to Follow This Study Schedule](#)

[Materials and Resources](#)

[Supplemental Reading](#)

[Two Month SAT Study Schedule](#)

[Week 1](#)

[Week 2](#)

[Week 3](#)

[Week 4](#)

[Week 5](#)

[Week 6](#)

[Week 7](#)

[Week 8](#)

[The Day Before Your SAT](#)

[Test Day](#)

Introduction

If you're reading this, you probably have at least two months left before you plan on taking the SAT. That's great news! Two to [three months](#) of studying will put you right in the sweet spot for being well-prepared.

You have just enough time to become an expert on the test and not let your grades suffer (especially if you're on summer break). But with this amount of time, it can be tough to stay focused. So what's the best way to stay on track?

With a study schedule! It's your lucky day, because we're happy to share (*drumroll*) our Two Month SAT Study Schedule. So you have exactly what you need to ace the test!

How to Follow This Study Schedule

- **This plan is broken up on a weekly basis.** The intention is not for you to knock everything out in one sitting. Rather, you should spread the prep out over the week, studying in 45- to 90-minute chunks. Some weeks are lighter than others, but as the test approaches, we've ramped up the study sessions. In the beginning, you might only be spending 4-5 hours per week on the study schedule; as the test nears you might be spending as many as 8 hours per week.
- **You should not feel that you always have to study math and verbal separately.** In fact, it is advantageous to make sure that each study session contains a mixture of the two, since it is good to get in the habit of having your brain switch back and forth between math and verbal, the way it will on the real test. So while the plan breaks up math and verbal into separate sections, this is just to help you keep your schedule organized.
- **The SAT study plan is broken up between "review" and "practice."** Don't feel your study sessions *should* be broken up this way either. You'll want to do a little review and then a little practice. That practice doesn't always have to relate directly to what you've just reviewed — that's why we've assigned Magoosh prep questions at random. Otherwise, you'll always be too comfortable because you know which concept each question is testing (i.e., the concept you've just drilled). With random questions, you'll be ready for whatever the test throws at you.
- **Magoosh has many, many lesson videos...so not all of them were included.** What we're trying to do is to include math that is more on the advanced side, and (of course) aligned with what the SAT is testing. The videos we didn't tend to include were the ones that tested more basic concepts (roots, integer properties, percents and ratios, etc.). These concepts will definitely be tested. In fact, they'll be all over the math section. So if you need a refresher or your math is a little shaky, weave these basic lessons into the study schedule. To make sure your fundamentals are strong from the get go, you'll want to cover these videos in the first couple of weeks.
- **One last thing: If you can't finish everything in the first week, don't despair.** You can move on to the following week without having to complete all the work. I've arranged the weeks so that

they focus on one area. I try to give you as much practice as I think is helpful in a one-week period. Falling a bit short won't hurt you. In fact, you can always revisit previous weeks later on — a good way of reviewing.

Materials and Resources

Magoosh SAT Prep

That's us! Our [New SAT Prep](#) includes lessons and questions that you will work through, thereby increasing your SAT efficiency.

You can also access our SAT study plan on your phone. Our [SAT Test Prep App](#) makes taking your studying on-the-go easy for both iPhone and Android users.

Magoosh High School Blog

An invaluable (and free!) resource. If you want extra help on a section or general advice, you can search for posts relating to the SAT (make sure you don't click on posts relating to the old SAT!). [This section of the blog](#) is completely dedicated to the Redesigned (New) SAT.

***The Official SAT Study Guide (2016 Edition)**

This is the SAT bible—questions created by the writers of the test (the College Board). You'll have plenty of practice tests and content to give you a sense of the actual difficulty and complexity of the test (it's more difficult than the content found in the other books). [Find it on Amazon](#) for under \$20.

We also have [Official SAT Study Guide video explanations](#) to the College Board questions. Check them out!

Official SAT Practice by College Board + Khan Academy

This is a free resource offered in conjunction with the College Board, which is the company that designs the SAT. Perhaps the best part of the [College Board/Khan Academy partnership](#) is that it brings us practice materials that are completely free. These free materials include the same practice tests offered in *The Official SAT Study Guide*. Really, the only new things you are paying for when you purchase the *The Official SAT Study Guide* are the explanations that come in the back of the book (which aren't that great anyhow). So...

*Unless you like working offline and/or just love the smell of books, you might want to stick to the free practice tests, and not purchase *The Official Guide* — which, again, contains the exact same tests found on the Khan Academy site.

Here is a [direct link to the free practice tests](#).

Barron's Strategies and Practice for the NEW PSAT/NMSQT

Yes, this book is intended for the [new suite of PSAT exams](#). But there simply isn't much content out there for the New SAT (at least, not in book form). The PSAT is virtually identical to the SAT. The content might be a tad easier, but this is good preparation for when you take the College Board tests that come later in this study schedule. [Find this book on Amazon](#) for about \$10.

Supplemental Reading

As I mentioned, doing well on the SAT isn't just about cracking open an SAT prep book and practicing. You'll also want to do a lot of extra reading. The point is to expose yourself to the types of ideas and syntax that might appear in an SAT article.

The following articles come from [The New Yorker](#) and [The New York Times](#). The articles below give you a taste for the length and tone of the pieces you should be reading. It is best to stick with the Science & Tech and Business sections of *The New Yorker* since they best mirror the kinds of passages that you'll see on the test.

For the first few weeks, I've provided you with enough reading. After that, you'll have to hunt the passages down yourself. (Just google "new york times business", for instance, to get you to that section.)

The New Yorker

- Science & Tech: [Stone's Throw](#)
- Business: [Is China Moving Fast Enough to Save the African Elephant?](#)

The New York Times

- Science: [IBM Scientists Find New Way to Shrink Transistors](#)
- Science: [Crows May Learn Lessons from Death](#)
- Science: [Testing Neurons With Ultrasound](#)
- Business: [College Rankings Fail to Measure the Influence of the Institution](#)

One other resource is [The Electric Typewriter](#). This website has pooled excellent writing from many sources (including the two above) and broken them down into easy to navigate categories. If you are struggling to find reading from *The New Yorker* or *The New York Times*, I highly recommend this website. Here are some articles that might be interesting:

- [Bad Education](#)
- [Creation Myth](#)
- [A History of Violence: Edge Master Class 2011](#)

When you read these articles, you should be in a quiet place. You shouldn't just be skimming to finish the articles, you won't improve that way. Instead, force yourself (yes, it won't be easy at first) to come up with a quick mental summary of each piece. Something along the lines of:

The article talks about the power of ancient tsunamis to dramatically alter the landscape, but that scientists can't determine if these big waves have global implications, the way volcanos or global warming does.

If you struggle to come up with a mental summary, write or type a quick one the way I just did.

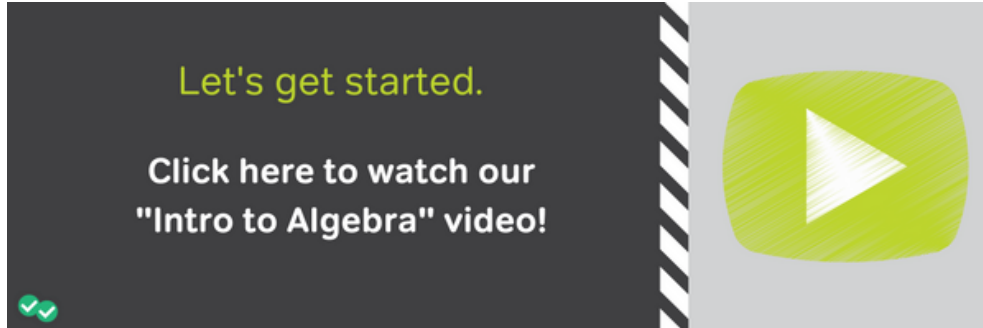
Two Month SAT Study Schedule

Week 1

Math

Math Review

- [Magoosh Lessons](#)
 - Watch Algebra, Equations, and Inequalities lessons



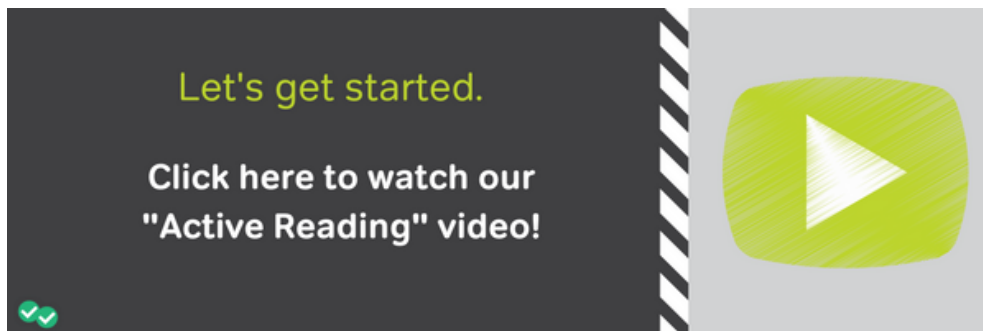
Math Practice

- Magoosh
 - Do 20 random practice questions (click "practice" on the top toolbar)

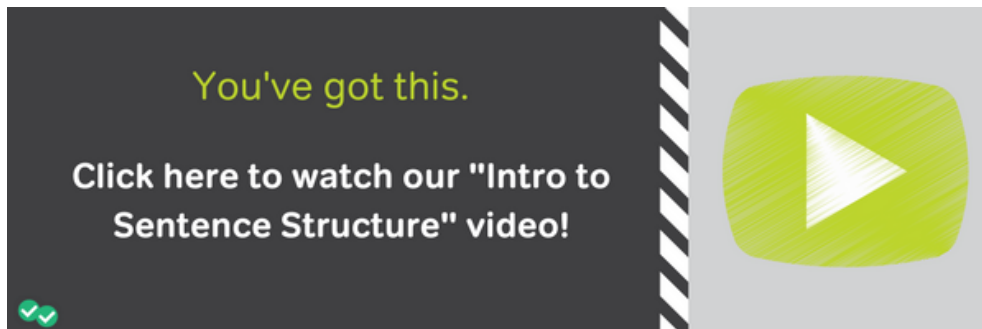
Verbal

Verbal Review

- [Magoosh Lessons](#)
 - Watch all four Reading lessons (located at the top of the right column of the Lessons page)



- Watch all the Writing lessons (Sentence Structure up through the Effective Language Use lesson)



Verbal Practice

- Magoosh
 - Choose “practice mode” and complete questions from any one reading passage (10-11 questions)
 - Choose “practice mode” and complete questions from any one writing passage (11 questions)

Supplemental Reading

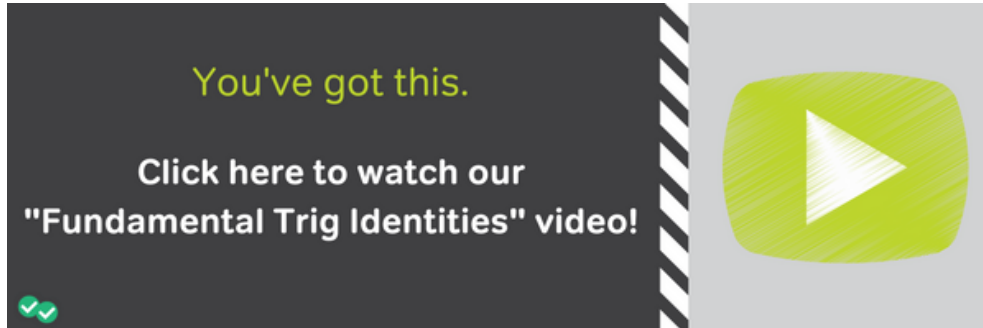
- [Stone's Throw](#)
- [Is China Moving Fast Enough to Save the African Elephant?](#)
- [Crows May Learn Lessons from Death](#)

Week 2

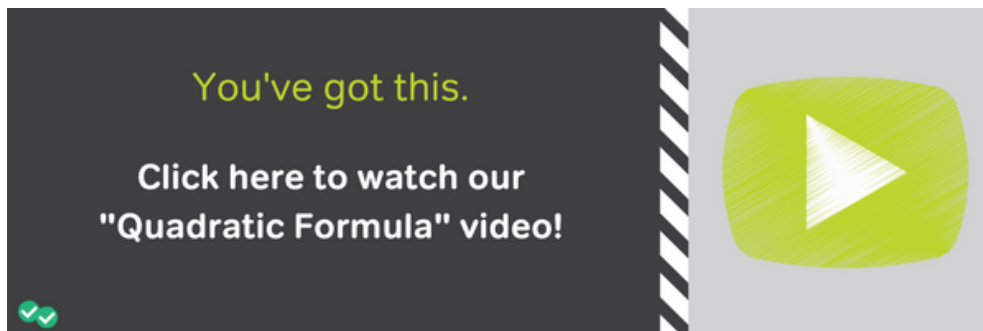
Math

“Passport to Advanced Math”

- [Magoosh Lessons](#)
 - Watch Passport to Advanced Math – Trigonometry lessons



- Watch Passport to Advanced Math – Extra Topics lessons



Math Practice

- Magoosh
 - Do 10 random practice questions (click “practice” on the top toolbar)
- Barron’s, pg. 126-130

Verbal

Verbal Review

- Barron’s Grammar, pg. 53-61

Verbal Practice

- Barron’s, pg. 62-79
- Magoosh

- Choose “practice mode” and complete questions from one writing passage (11 questions total)
- Choose “practice mode” and complete questions from one reading passage (10-11 questions total). Re-watch any of the reading lesson videos, if necessary.

Supplemental Reading

- [Creation Myth](#)
- [Testing Neurons with Ultrasound](#)
- [IBM Scientists Find New Way to Shrink Transistors](#)

Week 3

Up until now, you haven't touched any College Board stuff in this SAT study plan. There simply isn't that much content from the College Board, so you want to use it wisely. So far you've cut your teeth on practice content.

The hope is you've gotten yourself up to the level where you are ready for the slightly more sophisticated stuff the College Board is going to throw at you on test day. There is only one way to find out...

Practice Test #1

(The College Board Test #1, pg. 334)

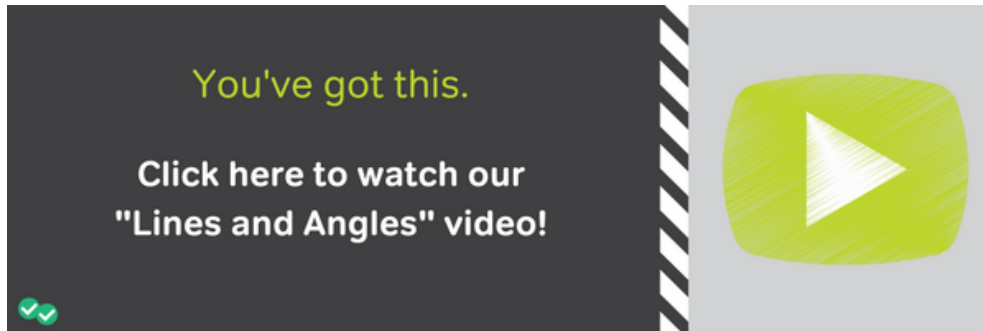
- Time yourself.
- Since this is your first full-length practice test, you don't have to do the entire test in one sitting, though that would be ideal.
- When you are done, make sure to follow the [How to Review an SAT Practice Test](#) video guide.
- Once you've assessed your weaknesses, go back over the material you've covered so far. For instance, you might want to revisit certain Magoosh videos or lessons covered in the other book.
- Since you still haven't covered every topic on the test, feel free to bounce around the [Magoosh lessons](#), choosing the ones that address topics we've yet to cover. For instance, scatterplots and other graphs have yet to be covered. If you missed these questions, go to the relevant Magoosh lesson to learn more about them.
- The entire process should take about 8-10 hours. (Weekend fun, anyone?)

Week 4

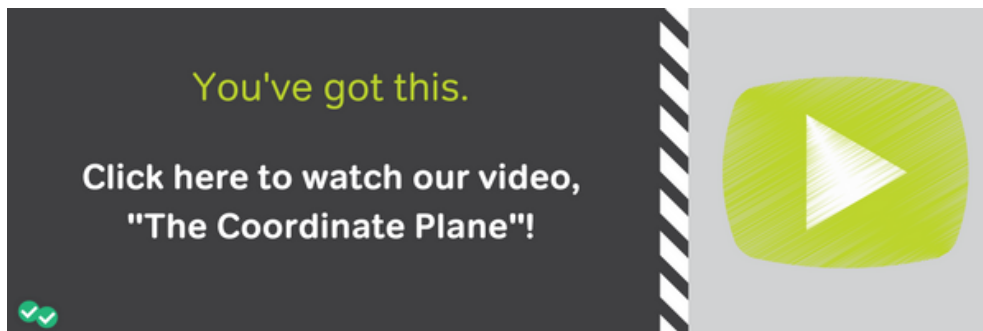
Math & Verbal

Math Review

- [Magoosh Lessons](#)
 - Watch two Word Problems videos (“Writing Equations” and “Backsolving”)
 - Watch first five Geometry videos (up to “Right Triangles”)



- Watch first four Coordinate Geometry videos (up to “Slope”). Remember, if topics are familiar, you can speed through the videos.



Math Practice

- Magoosh
 - Do 15 random practice questions. Randomized practice is becoming increasingly important in this SAT study plan, since you’ll be taking more practice tests and the order on tests is randomized.

Math + Verbal Practice

- Barron's Practice Test #1, begins on pg. 141
 - You can break up the test via section if that is more convenient for you. You might even want to grade and review a section at a time.

Supplemental Reading

Choose three medium-length articles or one long article (you can break this up over 2-3 sittings) from the [sources](#) at the beginning of the study schedule.

Week 5

Practice Test #2

(College Board Test #2, pg. 452)

Follow the same format as [Week 3](#). Assuming you have a better sense of the format, and therefore that the whole process won't take as long, here are some [Magoosh videos](#) to watch:

- Watch Coordinate Geometry lessons (next four videos, up to "Distance Between Two Points")

Week 6

Math

Math Review

- [Magoosh Lessons](#)
 - Finish Geometry lessons

Math Practice

- Magoosh
 - Do 15 random practice questions. Randomized practice is becoming increasingly important in this SAT study schedule, since you'll be taking more practice tests and the order on tests is randomized.

Verbal

Verbal Practice

- Magoosh
 - 22 Writing questions
 - 20-24 Reading questions

Math & Verbal

Math + Verbal Practice

- Barron's Practice Test #2, begins on pg. 201
 - You can break up the test via section if that is more convenient for you. You might even want to grade and review a section at a time.

No supplemental reading

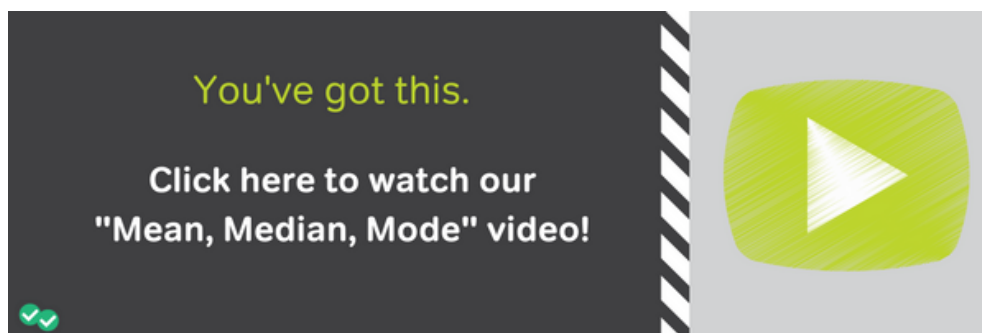
Week 7

Practice Test #3

(College Board Test #3, pg. 564)

Follow the same format as [Weeks 3](#) and [5](#). Assuming you have a better sense of the format, and therefore that the whole process won't take as long, here are some [Magoosh videos](#) to watch:

- Finish Coordinate Geometry lessons
- Watch all Statistics lessons



Supplemental Reading

Read three medium-length pieces or one long piece.

Week 8

Practice Test #4

(College Board Test #4, pg. 564)

Follow the same format as previous weeks.

Assuming you have a better sense of the format, and therefore that the whole process won't take as long, continue with mixed practice and supplemental reading. Plus, you've reached the final week of the two month SAT study schedule — can you believe it?! So let's make a final push to keep studying here at the end.

Mixed Practice

- *The Official SAT Study Guide* (aka The College Board book), pg. 87-326
 - The first half of this book, before the practice tests, contains practice problems and explanations.
 - Based on your weaknesses, choose a part to focus on. For instance, if you've struggled in reading, do the practice questions that relate to reading. If you've struggled with math, focus on the math questions. Read the explanations once you've thought through your wrong answers.
 - Don't read the text not related to the questions. Much of this is basic strategy that the [Magoosh videos](#) (and some of the books) do a better job of explaining.

Supplemental Reading

Use however much time you have left to read articles (two suggested).

The Day Before Your SAT

- No studying!
- Eat well and go to sleep early.

Test Day

- No studying!
- Eat a full breakfast before leaving home.
- Read our [SAT Test Day Checklist](#).
- Remember to pack:
 - Several #2 pencils (no mechanical pencils & **no pens!**)
 - Your calculator
 - A drink and a healthy-but-sugary snack
- No phones allowed!!

Good luck on your SAT!