

TAKE NOTE

Build a future in Math & Science Note-taking

Be ready to record formulas and equations.

These are sentences written in mathematical notation. When you write down a formula or an equation, carefully record and label each of the components or steps in the process.

Leave space in your notes. Leave enough room to draw diagrams, write formulas and equations, and copy down problems. Also leave space to record each step as you solve problems and to show your work.

Use good scientific laboratory practice. If you think you've made a mistake in a formula, an equation, or a diagram, don't erase or scratch out everything you've written. Instead, draw one or two lines through the part containing the mistake. These lines will help you trace your thinking later and find errors that need fixing. Rewrite a clean version of the material on a new page of notes.

Keep writing if you get off track. If you fall behind the lecture mark where you got off track and keep writing down what your instructor is saying. You want to record as much of the information as possible—you can always go back later to fill in what you missed.

Learn the shorthand. In these classes learn the shorthand so you'll take notes faster and better understand what the information means. (e.g., Hz = hertz, d = distance, BTU = British thermal units).

Don't forget: ask for help when you need it. If you don't understand a concept, talk with a tutor or your instructor to get clarity. These classes' information builds from class to class so you need to clear up any confusion immediately to stay on track. Take advantage of Long Beach City College's free tutoring and supplemental instruction programs if you need extra help. (Visit the centers in person or call 562-938-4474 for more information.)