

# How To Prepare For Exams

## Make a Mind Map

**USEFUL IN CONNECTING IDEAS AND UNDERSTANDING PARALLELS BETWEEN TOPICS**

Drawing a mind map will help you to see how certain formulas and problem-solving techniques can be used in tandem to tackle complex problems!

## Spend time on your Formula Sheet

**THE PROCESS OF MAKING THE SHEET HELPS YOU STUDY**

As you're going through the units to make your formula sheet, take note of concepts you feel rusty on or still don't totally get. Go back and revisit these concepts, using all the resources at your disposal including the textbook, lecture videos, in-class notes, TAs, office hours, and other students in the class.

## Use the Textbook Example Problems

**THINK ABOUT HOW CHANGING THE SITUATION IN DIFFERENT WAYS WOULD CHANGE THE PROBLEM**

Warning: Memorizing one specific path to solving a specific type of problem won't get you through the exams! You need to be able to apply concepts and use the tools you're given to solve new problems, so make sure you have a deep understanding of the concepts and know not just how to do the problems but why these methods work.

## Go back to the Problem Sets

**REDO PROBLEMS YOU GOT WRONG THE FIRST TIME**

You really want to address the gaps in your understanding of those physics concepts! Don't let them haunt you! Once again, your study group, TA's, and your professor are good resources in helping you understand concepts you're shaky on.

## Do all the problems on the Practice Exam

**THE PROBLEMS ON THE ACTUAL EXAM WILL OFTEN BE SIMILAR TO THESE PROBLEMS**

Do not look at the answer sheet until you've spent time trying the problem yourself, but definitely do make use of the answer sheet and make sure you fully understand all the answers.

## Get lots of sleep the night before

**TAKING CARE OF YOURSELF IS THE TOP PRIORITY**

It's important to note that the above list are just suggestions; you may not have time to redo every problem set problem you got wrong, or might have other strategies that work better for you, and that's ok! At the end of the day, the most important thing is that you take care of yourself and find what works best for you!