



GED® Test Prep Tenth Edition Creating Your GED® Study Schedule

First Steps:

1. Read the **Kaplan's GED® Test Book and Online Center**, **GED® Test Overview**, and **GED® Computer-Based Testing** sections on p. vii–xvii and familiarize yourself with the exam policies.
2. Follow the instructions on p. 1 to complete the **Pretests**. Use your results to fill in the **Kaplan GED® Test Study Planners** on p. xviii–xxii.

Creating a Study Schedule:

Two main factors will impact your personal study schedule:

1. **How much time you have to study.** If you have six months or more to prepare for the exam, you may have enough time to review all the tested topics. If you have four to six months, you can still review all the tested topics, but you will need to increase your daily study time. If you have three months or less, you'll most likely need to target your study.
2. **Your Pretest results.** Whatever your timeframe for prep, use your results to help you prioritize your study. If you plan on reviewing all the topics, your results will help you know which topics will likely require the most time, and you can plan accordingly. If you will need to target your study on certain topics, you can prioritize those topics on which you missed the most questions.

See p. viii–ix for additional tips about creating your study schedule.

Components of study schedules:

1. **Lessons.** Your book divides each of the four GED® tests into numerous topics, and each topic chapter is divided into 3–13 Lessons. See the Table of Contents on p. iii–vi.
2. **End-of-Topic Practice Question Sets.** Each topic chapter concludes with a Practice Question Set designed to help you assess your mastery. Use the results of these Practice Question Sets to help guide what material you review.

3. **Review.** Since the GED® covers so much material, keep in mind that you'll need to schedule time to revisit material you've already studied so you don't forget what you've learned. The schedules below assume you are planning about an hour a week to review, as well as a full week of review immediately before your test date.
4. **Practice Tests.** Plan to take the Practice Tests during your last month of study, no more than two weeks before you are scheduled to take the actual exam. If you're scheduled to take the entire real exam in one day, try to take all the Practice Tests in one day. Otherwise, you can spread the Practice Tests over multiple days. Plan to take at least an hour to review each Practice Test, and use your results to help guide what material you will review in your final week before the exam.

Notes on study time:

The sample schedules below recommend you work through 1–3 Lessons each day. The time required to complete a Lesson will vary from person to person and topic to topic; you may find you can do Lessons on some familiar topics in as little as 30 minutes, while a Lesson about a more challenging topic might take 2 hours or more. Try not to let the time it takes to work through a Lesson discourage you! Remember that every person's learning pace is unique, and take the needed time to work through the material until you're comfortable with it. These sample study schedules will assume that a Lesson takes an average of 1 hour to complete, but adjust your schedule accordingly based upon the actual time it takes you.

Five sample schedules are included below. Use these samples as a guide to help you create your personalized study schedule, based on the number of months and hours per day you can devote to prep.

Sample Schedules Included:

- 6 Months or More, Every Topic, ~1–1.5 hours per day p. 3
- 4 Months or More, Every Topic, ~2 hours per day p. 6
- 4 Months, Targeted Review, ~1–1.5 hour per day p. 8
- 3 Months, Targeted Review, ~2 hours per day p. 11
- 3 Months, Targeted Review, ~1 hour per day p. 13

Sample Schedule: 6 Months or More, Every Topic

Assumes: ~1–1.5 hours per day, 6 days per week
1–2 Lessons and/or End-of-Chapter Practice Question Sets per day

Month 1: 27 Lessons + 4 Practice Sets

- **Reasoning Through Language Arts:** 9 Lessons + 1 Practice Set
 - Chapter 1: Interpreting Nonfiction (9 Lessons + Practice Set)
- **Mathematical Reasoning:** 12 Lessons + 2 Practice Sets
 - Chapter 1: Number Sense and Problem Solving (5 Lessons + Practice Set)
 - Chapter 2: Decimals and Fractions (7 Lessons + Practice Set)
- **Social Studies:** 6 Lessons + 1 Practice Set
 - Chapter 1: Social Studies Practices (6 Lessons + Practice Set)

Month 2: 29 Lessons + 5 Practice Sets + Review

- **Reasoning Through Language Arts:** 12 Lessons + 2 Practice Sets
 - Chapter 2: Analyzing Nonfiction and Informational Text (6 Lessons + Practice Set)
 - Chapter 4: Writing Effective Sentences (6 Lessons + Practice Set)
- **Mathematical Reasoning:** 6 Lessons + 1 Practice Set
 - Chapter 3: Ratio, Proportion, and Percent (6 Lessons + Practice Set)
- **Social Studies:** 5 Lessons + 1 Practice Set
 - Chapter 2: U.S. History (5 Lessons + Practice Set)
- **Science:** 6 Lessons + 1 Practice Sets
 - Chapter 1: Science Practices (6 Lessons + Practice Set)
- **Review:** (~1 hour per week)
 - Reasoning Through Language Arts

Month 3: 32 Lessons + 5 Practice Sets + Review

- **Reasoning Through Language Arts:** 9 Lessons + 2 Practice Sets
 - Chapter 3: Interpreting Fiction (6 Lessons + Practice Set)
 - Chapter 5: Connecting Ideas (3 Lessons + Practice Set)
- **Mathematical Reasoning:** 10 Lessons + 1 Practice Set
 - Chapter 4: Data, Statistics, and Probability (10 Lessons + Practice Set)

Month 3 continued on next page.

- **Social Studies:** 5 Lessons + 1 Practice Set
 - Chapter 3: Civics and Government (5 Lessons + Practice Set)
- **Science:** 8 Lessons + 1 Practice Sets
 - Chapter 2: Life Science (8 Lessons + Practice Set)
- **Review:** (~1 hour per week)
 - Mathematical Reasoning

Month 4: 28 Lessons + 4 Practice Sets + Review

- **Reasoning Through Language Arts:** 7 Lessons + 1 Practice Set
 - Chapter 6: Writing About Text (7 Lessons + Practice Set)
- **Mathematical Reasoning:** 12 Lessons + 1 Practice Set
 - Chapter 5: Algebra Basics, Expressions, and Polynomials (12 Lessons + Practice Set)
- **Social Studies:** 4 Lessons + 1 Practice Set
 - Chapter 4: Economics (4 Lessons + Practice Set)
- **Science:** 5 Lessons + 1 Practice Set
 - Chapter 3: Earth and Space Science (5 Lessons + Practice Set)
- **Review:** (~1 hour per week)
 - Reasoning Through Language Arts
 - Mathematical Reasoning
 - Science

Month 5: 31 Lessons + 5 Practice Sets + Review

- **Reasoning Through Language Arts:** 6 Lessons + 2 Practice Sets
 - Chapter 7: Polishing Your Writing (3 Lessons + Practice Set)
 - Chapter 8: Using Grammar Correctly (3 Lessons + Practice Set)
- **Mathematical Reasoning:** 13 Lessons + 1 Practice Set
 - Chapter 6: Equations, Inequalities, and Functions (13 Lessons + Practice Set)
- **Social Studies:** 6 Lessons + 1 Practice Set
 - Chapter 5: Geography and the World (6 Lessons + Practice Set)
- **Science:** 6 Lessons + 1 Practice Set
 - Chapter 4: Physical Science (6 Lessons + Practice Set)

Month 5 continued on next page.

- **Review:** (~1 hour per week)
 - Reasoning Through Language Arts
 - Mathematical Reasoning
 - Social Studies

Month 6: 13 Lessons + 2 Practice Sets + Practice Tests + Review

See “Components of study schedules” section above for more tips about the Practice Tests.

- **Practice Tests**
 - Take no more than two weeks before test day.
 - Complete under timed conditions.
 - Review explanations. (~1 hour per Practice Test)
- **Reasoning Through Language Arts:** 4 Lessons + 1 Practice Set
 - Chapter 9: Using Writing Mechanics (4 Lessons + Practice Set)
- **Mathematical Reasoning:** 9 Lessons + 1 Practice Set
 - Chapter 7: Geometry (9 Lessons + Practice Set)
- **Review:** (~1 hour per week, 6+ hours final week)
 - Target based on Practice Tests results.
 - Use the week before your test day to focus on review.

Sample Schedule: 4 Months or More, Every Topic

Assumes: ~2 hours per day, 6 days per week
2 Lessons and/or End-of-Topic Practice Question Sets per day

Notes:

- The last month will likely require additional study time, to allow for the full-length Practice Tests and review.

Month 1: 39 Lessons + 6 Practice Sets

- **Reasoning Through Language Arts:** 21 Lessons + 3 Practice Sets
 - Chapter 1: Interpreting Nonfiction (9 Lessons + Practice Set)
 - Chapter 2: Analyzing Nonfiction (6 Lessons + Practice Set)
 - Chapter 4: Writing Effective Sentences (6 Lessons + Practice Set)
- **Mathematical Reasoning:** 18 Lessons + 3 Practice Sets
 - Chapter 1: Number Sense and Problem Solving (5 Lessons + Practice Set)
 - Chapter 2: Decimals and Fractions (7 Lessons + Practice Set)
 - Chapter 3: Ratio, Proportion, and Percent (6 Lessons + Practice Set)

Month 2: 43 Lessons + 6 Practice Sets + Review

- **Reasoning Through Language Arts:** 9 Lessons + 2 Practice Sets
 - Chapter 3: Interpreting Fiction (6 Lessons + Practice Set)
 - Chapter 5: Connecting Ideas (3 Lessons + Practice Set)
- **Mathematical Reasoning:** 22 Lessons + 2 Practice Sets
 - Chapter 4: Data, Statistics, and Probability (10 Lessons + Practice Set)
 - Chapter 5: Algebra Basics, Expressions, and Polynomials (12 Lessons + Practice Set)
- **Social Studies:** 6 Lessons + 1 Practice Set
 - Chapter 1: Social Studies Practices (6 Lessons + Practice Set)
- **Science:** 6 Lessons + 1 Practice Set
 - Chapter 1: Science Practices (6 Lessons + Practice Set)
- **Review:** (~1 hour per week)
 - Reasoning Through Language Arts
 - Mathematical Reasoning

Month 3: 46 Lessons + 7 Practice Sets + Review

- **Reasoning Through Language Arts:** 10 Lessons + 2 Practice Sets
 - Chapter 6: Writing About Text (7 Lessons + Practice Set)
 - Chapter 8: Using Grammar Correctly (3 Lessons + Practice Set)

Month 3 continued on next page.

- **Mathematical Reasoning:** 13 Lessons + 1 Practice Set
 - Chapter 6: Equations, Inequalities, and Functions (13 Lessons + Practice Set)
- **Social Studies:** 10 Lessons + 2 Practice Sets
 - Chapter 2: U.S. History (5 Lessons + Practice Set)
 - Chapter 3: Civics and Government (5 Lessons + Practice Set)
- **Science:** 13 Lessons + 2 Practice Sets
 - Chapter 2: Life Science (8 Lessons + Practice Set)
 - Chapter 3: Earth and Space Science (5 Lessons + Practice Set)
- **Review:** (~1 hour per week)
 - Mathematical Reasoning
 - Social Studies
 - Science

Month 4: 32 Lessons + 6 Practice Sets + Practice Tests + Review

See “Components of study schedules” section above for more tips about the Practice Tests.

- **Practice Tests**
 - Take no more than two weeks before test day.
 - Complete under timed conditions.
 - Review explanations. (~1 hour per Practice Test)
- **Reasoning Through Language Arts:** 7 Lessons + 2 Practice Sets
 - Chapter 7: Polishing Your Writing (3 Lessons + Practice Set)
 - Chapter 9: Using Writing Mechanics (4 Lessons + Practice Set)
- **Mathematical Reasoning:** 9 Lessons + 1 Practice Set
 - Chapter 7: Geometry (9 Lessons + Practice Set)
- **Social Studies:** 10 Lessons + 2 Practice Sets
 - Chapter 4: Economics (4 Lessons + Practice Set)
 - Chapter 5: Geography and the World (6 Lessons + Practice Set)
- **Science:** 6 Lessons + 1 Practice Set
 - Chapter 4: Physical Science (6 Lessons + Practice Set)
- **Review:** (~1 hour per week, 6+ hours final week)
 - Target based on Practice Tests results.
 - Use the week before your test day to focus on review.

Sample Schedule: 4 Months, Targeted Review

Assumes: ~1–1.5 hour per day, 6 days per week
1–2 Lessons and/or End-of-Topic Practice Question Sets per day

Notes:

- This plan will likely allow you to review about a half of the Lessons in detail.
- ***Fill in the specific Lessons you will study based on your Pretest Study Plans from pages xviii–xxii.***
- The last month will likely require additional study time, to allow for the full-length Practice Tests and review.
- Note that the Reasoning Through Language Arts Lessons and the Mathematical Reasoning Lessons are spread over multiple months.

Month 1: ~20–30 Lessons + ___ Practice Sets

- **Reasoning Through Language Arts:** ___ Lessons + ___ Practice Sets
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 -
 -
- **Mathematical Reasoning:** ___ Lessons + ___ Practice Sets
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Month 2: ~ 20–30 Lessons + ___ Practice Sets + Review

- **Reasoning Through Language Arts:** ___ Lessons + ___ Practice Sets
 - Chapter 6: Writing About Text (7 Lessons + Practice Set)
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 -
- **Mathematical Reasoning:** ___ Lessons + ___ Practice Sets
 -
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 -
- **Social Studies:** ___ Lessons + ___ Practice Sets
 - Chapter 1: Social Studies Practices (6 Lessons + Practice Set)
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Month 2 continued on next page.

- **Review:** (~1 hour per week)
 - Reasoning Through Language Arts
 - Mathematical Reasoning

Month 3: ~ 20–30 Lessons + ____ Practice Sets + Review

- **Reasoning Through Language Arts:** ____ Lessons + ____ Practice Sets
 -
 -
 -
- **Mathematical Reasoning:** ____ Lessons + ____ Practice Sets
 -
 -
 -
- **Science:** ____ Lessons + ____ Practice Sets
 - Chapter 1: Science Practices (6 Lessons + Practice Set)
 -
 -
- **Review:** (~1 hour per week)
 - Reasoning Through Language Arts
 - Mathematical Reasoning
 - Science

Month 4: ~ 20 Lessons + ____ Practice Sets + Practice Tests + Review

See “Components of study schedules” section above for more tips about the Practice Tests.

- **Reasoning Through Language Arts:** ____ Lessons + ____ Practice Sets
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- **Mathematical Reasoning:** ____ Lessons + ____ Practice Sets
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Month 4 continued on next page.

- **Practice Tests**
 - Take no more than two weeks before test day.
 - Complete under timed conditions.
 - Review explanations. (~1 hour per Practice Test)
- **Review:** (~1 hour per week, 6+ hours final week)
 - Target based on Practice Tests results.
 - Use the week before your test day to focus on review.

Sample Schedule: 3 Months, Targeted Review

Assumes: ~2 hour per day, 6 days per week
1–3 Lessons and/or End-of-Topic Practice Question sets per day

Notes:

- This plan would likely allow you to review about a half to two-thirds of the Lessons in detail.
- ***Fill in the specific Lessons you will study based on your Pretest Study Plans from pages xviii–xxiii.***
- The last month will likely require additional study time, to allow for the full-length Practice Tests and review.
- Note that the Reasoning Through Language Arts Lessons and the Mathematical Reasoning Lessons are spread over multiple months.

Month 1: ~30-40 Lessons + ___ Practice Sets

- **Reasoning Through Language Arts:** ___ Lessons + ___ Practice Sets
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- **Mathematical Reasoning:** ___ Lessons + ___ Practice Sets
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Month 2: ~ 30-40 Lessons + ___ Practice Sets + Review

- **Reasoning Through Language Arts:** ___ Lessons + ___ Practice Sets
 - Chapter 6: Writing About Text (7 Lessons + Practice Set)
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 -
 -
- **Mathematical Reasoning:** ___ Lessons + ___ Practice Sets
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Month 2 continued on next page.

- **Science:** ___ Lessons + ___ Practice Sets
 - Chapter 1: Science Practices (6 Lessons + Practice Set)
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 -
 -
- **Review:** (~1 hour per week)
 - Reasoning Through Language Arts
 - Mathematical Reasoning

Month 3: ~ 30 Lessons + ___ Practice Sets + Practice Tests + Review

See “Components of study schedules” section above for more tips about the Practice Tests.

- **Reasoning Through Language Arts:** ___ Lessons + ___ Practice Sets
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 -
- **Mathematical Reasoning:** ___ Lessons + ___ Practice Sets
 -
 -
 -
 -
- **Social Studies:** ___ Lessons + ___ Practice Sets
 - Chapter 1: Social Studies Practices (6 Lessons + Practice Set)
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 -
 -
- **Practice Tests**
 - Take no more than two weeks before test day.
 - Complete under timed conditions.
 - Review explanations. (~1 hour per Practice Test)
- **Review:** (~1 hour per week, 6+ hours final week)
 - Reasoning Through Language Arts
 - Mathematical Reasoning
 - Science
 - Target based on Practice Tests results.
 - Use the week before your test day to focus on review.

Sample Schedule: 3 Months, Targeted Review

Assumes: ~1 hour per day, 6 days per week
1–2 Lessons and/or End-of-Topic Practice Question sets per day

Notes:

- This plan would likely allow you to review about a third of the Lessons in detail.
- ***Fill in the specific Lessons you will study based on your Pretest Study Plans from pages xviii–xxiii.***
- The last month will likely require additional study time, to allow for the full-length Practice Tests and review.
- Note that the Reasoning Through Language Arts Lessons and the Mathematical Reasoning Lessons are spread over multiple months.

Month 1: ~20 Lessons + ___ Practice Sets

- **Reasoning Through Language Arts:** ___ Lessons + ___ Practice Sets
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 -
 -
- **Mathematical Reasoning:** ___ Lessons + ___ Practice Sets
 -
 -
 -

Month 2: ~ 20 Lessons + ___ Practice Sets + Review

- **Reasoning Through Language Arts:** ___ Lessons + ___ Practice Sets
 - Chapter 6: Writing About Text (7 Lessons + Practice Set)
 -
 -
- **Mathematical Reasoning:** ___ Lessons + ___ Practice Sets
 -
 -
 -
- **Science:** ___ Lessons + ___ Practice Sets
 - Chapter 1: Science Practices (6 Lessons + Practice Set)
 -
 -

Month 2 continued on next page.

- **Review:** (~1 hour per week)
 - Reasoning Through Language Arts
 - Mathematical Reasoning

Month 3: ~ 20 Lessons + ___ Practice Sets + Practice Tests + Review

See “Components of study schedules” section above for more tips about the Practice Tests.

- **Reasoning Through Language Arts:** ___ Lessons + ___ Practice Sets
 -
 -
 -
- **Mathematical Reasoning:** ___ Lessons + ___ Practice Sets
 -
 -
 -
- **Social Studies:** ___ Lessons + ___ Practice Sets
 - Chapter 1: Social Studies Practices (6 Lessons + Practice Set)
 -
 -
- **Practice Tests**
 - Take no more than two weeks before test day.
 - Complete under timed conditions.
 - Review explanations. (~1 hour per Practice Test)
- **Review:** (~1 hour per week, 6+ hours final week)
 - Reasoning Through Language Arts
 - Mathematical Reasoning
 - Science
 - Target based on Practice Tests results.
 - Use the week before your test day to focus on review.