

How To Create a Collaborative BitPaper Whiteboard

Collaborative whiteboards are powerful tools for facilitating group interactions in online environments. Groups of students can work together on a single whiteboard, similar to how they would work on a worksheet or whiteboard in class. These whiteboards can also be an instrumental way to keep track of the progress of all groups and to help you decide which groups need the most guidance. As LAs, you can either create collaborative whiteboards for students to work in or you can help students create their own.

How To Create a Collaborative BitPaper Whiteboard:

BitPaper is an online collaborative whiteboard software that allows group members to work on a single whiteboard at one time. It is easy to use and learning a few simple keyboard shortcuts makes it efficient to use. Unlike Google Docs, you can hand draw with BitPaper to create graphs and other symbolic representations. To create a collaborative BitPaper whiteboard:

- 1. Go to https://www.bitpaper.io and sign in to your BitPaper Account.
- 2. Create a new whiteboard by clicking the "create paper" button in the top right corner of the screen.
- 3. Once you have a whiteboard open you can share it with members of your group by copying the URL of the document and sharing it via your preferred messaging service.

Note: BitPaper requires that the person creating the whiteboard (professor, TA, LA, etc.) has an account with an actively paid membership. Students can access unlimited BitPaper whiteboards and create one per month with a free student account.

Tips for BitPaper:

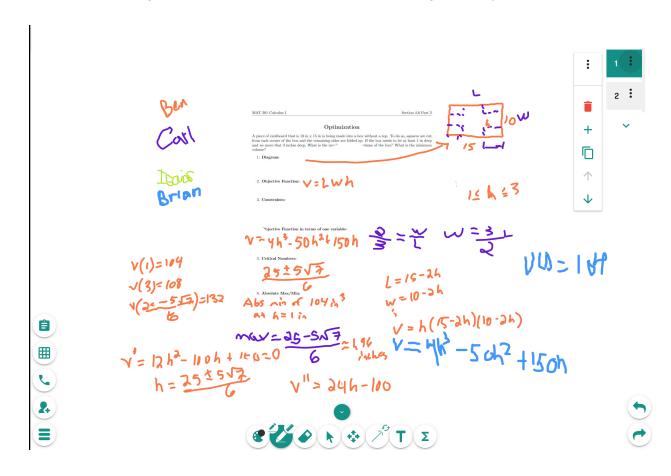
- **Designate group roles** (facilitator, reporter, recorder, etc.) so everyone knows who is responsible for writing in the document. You can color-code the document and assign each student a color to encourage equal participation.
- **Insert documents** into the collaborative whiteboard for students to work on, similar to how they would work on worksheets in class. Any image or document can simply be dragged and dropped into BitPaper.
- Use audio/video calls, screenshare and chat in BitPaper to facilitate group interactions. These features of BitPaper allow groups to work together outside of the Zoom app. This is good for groups who want privacy to work or in cases where Zoom cannot support enough breakout rooms for all the students.
- **Use the equation editor** to create equations within a BitPaper whiteboard. This equation editor is TeX based and does require that the user knows how this system works. However, you can also copy and paste premade equations into the equation editor. Many commonly used equations can be found here.

Examples from BitPaper Collaborative Whiteboards:

Handwritten:

The example below contains:

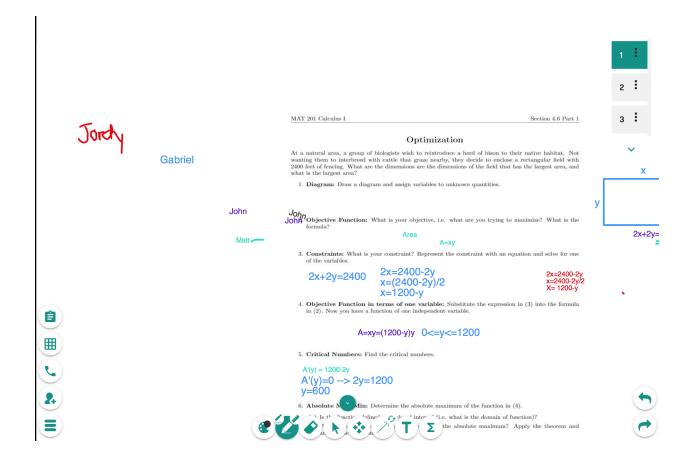
- A BitPaper whiteboard that had a document uploaded to it.
- Different colors to represent different student's work within the document.
- Handwritten work that was completed by students.
- Multiple pages within the same whiteboard (second page not fully shown)



Typed:

The example below contains:

- A BitPaper whiteboard that had a document uploaded to it.
- Different colors to represent different student's work within the document.
- Typed work that was completed by students.
- Multiple pages within the same whiteboard (second and third page not fully shown)



^{*}These examples were adopted from Christy Gomez - Mathematics Faculty, Front Range Community College Boulder County Campus*