

Clear And Concise Directions

Why should I do it:

- This is a good general strategy to use with all students to increase understanding
- Improves students' ability to correctly complete assignments
- Helps students to fully benefit and get everything out of an assignment
- Reduces the number of students coming up to get help and clarification
- Improves students attending behaviors
- Reduces redundancy, confusion, and dependency
- Increases students' confidence when they know exactly what to do without question
- Saves time, effort, and increases production
- Students tend to get to work and engage more quickly

When should I do it:

- This is a good general strategy to use at all times with all students and classes

How do I do it:

- Use clear and understandable language on the level with the students
- Keep directions as succinct, concise, and to the point as possible
- Don't be "wordy" in directions
- Repeat directions verbally
- Have students repeat and explain directions back
- Do one or several problems or items with the students to clarify the directions
- Break longer directions down into parts and explain each part with examples
- Don't jump around in directions, rather ensure they are logical, linear (when possible), and not ambivalent
- Break directions down to the main and essential points, avoiding tangents and non-essential details, stories, examples, etc