# THE ULTIMATE **GMAT 30 DAY** STUDY GUIDE

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This is the exact study plan that I used to score a 750 on the old GMAT (715 on the new one) in just one month of prep.

Keep in mind - Cramming in 30 days will be hard, but it's possible. It's exactly what I did. First step to getting the score you want is having a PERFECT & OPTIMAL study plan.

Disclaimer - This plan assumes you have 5-6 hours a day to study! Spread this out over a longer period (2-3 months) if you need to!

### Tips:

- Stay committed This is one month of hard work but it can have a real impact on your career and life.
   Stay committed for a month and you will thank yourself later.
- 2. **Prioritise physical and mental health -** At no point during this time should you compromise on your health. Do whatever it takes to keep yourself healthy and firing. I meditated, went to the gym and played football every day.
- 3. Stay positive and believe in yourself Cliche but probably the most important tip I can give you.

## Resources I Recommend

- <u>Target Test Prep</u> I used this and got a 150 point increase. It's an investment in your career and will make your learning structured and efficient. Use my <u>link</u> to sign up.
- **GMATClub** Online forum where you can find endless practice problems. Use it wisely.
- MBA.com Practice Tests (All 6)

These are all you need. I would **NOT** recommend buying any additional books/courses as they will just distract you. All the material you need to do well on the GMAT will be available in these 3 resources.

#### TOO MUCH MATERIAL = WASTED TIME

Remember this throughout your prep,

### **QUALITY>QUANTITY**

If you don't want to invest in a paid platform, I have links to a few resources which are quite good! These are on the last page of the PDF. They won't be as structured and efficient but can help you a lot! If you have a longer time to study, these could be a good option.

### The study plan is divided into 4 phases:

- 1. Identify strengths and weaknesses (Day 1-3)
- 2. Build a quantitative foundation (Day 4-12)
- 3. Polish your verbal skills (Day 12-19)
- 4. Brush up on data insights (Day 19-22)
- 5. Practice, Practice (Day 22-29)

Phase 1 on the next page...

## Phase 1 - Identify strengths and weaknesses

### Day 1

- Read about the GMAT exam format. Familiarise yourself with the types of questions that will be asked in each section and the timing for each section.
- Create an account on MBA.com
- Take an official practice GMAT test to get a baseline score and see where you're at.

(Time Spent: 4-5 hours)

### Day 2

- Analyse your performance in the practice test.
- Make a list of topics you're good at and a list of topics you're bad at. This will serve as a guide when you're studying each topic.
- Spend more time on topics which you're bad at.

(Time Spent: 2-3 hours)

Don't worry about your score on the first practice exam! The goal is to become familiar with the exam and set a baseline for measuring your progress.

## Phase 2 - Build a Quantitative Foundation

Now would be the perfect time to sign up for a test prep service.

## This is how you should go about learning quant topics on the GMAT -

- 1. Build a base of knowledge for that particular topic by going through the theory, reading material and videos
- 2. Make a note of the most important points
- 3. After you finish reading about a particular topic, immediately solve practice problems
- 4. Start with easy difficulty, then medium, and then hard
- 5. Practice questions will be available on your test prep course. Solve those and aim for the target accuracy.
- 6. GMATClub also has all the practice questions you need you can filter on difficulty level as well. Use it wisely.
- 7. Maintain an error log. Log the mistakes you make consistently and try to not make them again.
- 8. Aim for proper concept understanding before moving on to the next topic.

Follow the guidelines outlined on the previous page to study all the quant topics.

### Stay focused!

DAY	TOPICS	TIME SPENT
DAY 3	Introduction To Quant, Essential GMAT Quant Skills	5-6 Hours
DAY 4	Linear & Quadratic Equations, Properties of Numbers	5-6 Hours
DAY 5	Roots and Exponents, Inequalities and Absolute Values	5-6 Hours
DAY 6	General Word Problems, Unit Conversions	5-6 Hours
DAY 7	Rate Problems, Work Problems	5-6 Hours
DAY 8	Ratios, Percent Word Problems	5-6 Hours
DAY 9	Overlapping Sets, Statistics	5-6 Hours
DAY 10	Formula Logic, Combinations and Permutations	5-6 Hours
DAY 11	Probability, Coordinate Geometry	5-6 Hours
DAY 12	Functions and Sequences	5-6 Hours

All topics available on TTP.

Use the free equivalent resources and topics if not using TTP (links on last page)

Phase 2 on the next page..

### Phase 2 - Polish Your Verbal Skills

We will spend the next 10 days building a verbal foundation. Verbal has 3 sections -

- Sentence Correction
- Reading Comprehension
- Critical Reasoning

#### **IMPORTANT**

GMAT doesn't want to actually test your English skills.

## AT THE END OF THE DAY, THE GMAT IS AN EXAM WHICH TESTS YOUR LOGIC.

So there is a way of learning Verbal that can be done by just using logic and not having proper language and grammar skills which a lot of us don't have. The more you try to solve your problems with logic, the better you'll score!

Both TTP and GMATNinja teach with this philosophy.

## Divide your learning in the following way:

DAY	TOPICS	TIME SPENT
DAY 13	CR - Intro to Critical Reasoning, Identify the Assumption questions	5-6 Hours
DAY 14	CR - Weaken the Argument, Strengthen the Argument, Resolve the Paradox, Cause and Effect Arguments,	5-6 Hours
DAY 15	CR - Inference Questions, Find the Conclusion, Evaluate the Argument	5-6 Hours
DAY 16	CR - Logical Flaw, Complete the Passage, Method of Reasoning and Boldface	5-6 Hours
DAY 17	RC - Introduction to GMAT RC	5-6 Hours
DAY 18	RC - Primary Purpose, Structure, Tone, and Specific Purpose	5-6 Hours
DAY 19	RC - Detail, Inference, Application, Assumption, Weaken, and Strengthen	3-4 Hours

## Phase 3 - Data Insights

Having a strong quant and verbal base will help you do well in the DI section. Make sure you have those sorted before you start this.

DAY	TOPICS	TIME SPENT
DAY 20	Introduction to Data Insights, Graphics Interpretation	5-6 Hours
DAY 21	Two Part Analysis Questions, Criteria Based Data Sufficiency	5-6 Hours
DAY 22	Table Analysis, Multi Source Reasoning	5-6 Hours

### Phase 4 - Practice, Practice, Practice

Now is the time to practice and perfect every thing you've learnt. Purchase 2 extra practice tests on MBA.com.

### (Trust me! Make the investment if you can)

You would ideally do one practice test every other day for the next 6 days.

#### **IMPORTANT** -

Replicate test-like conditions! I cannot stress this enough. This means switching your phone off, not having snacks on the table, not taking extended breaks and definitely not looking for answers on the internet!

In the day off after each test, assess your performance objectively. See what mistakes you made and write them down in your error log. Go through the theory again (if necessary) and practice similar practice questions on GMATClub.

Your performance should become better with each practice test and you should score around your target in the last one!

DAY	TEST	
DAY 23	Practice Test 2	
DAY 24	Assess Performance and Fix Weaknesses	
DAY 25	Practice Test 3	
DAY 26	Assess Performance and Fix Weaknesses	
DAY 27	Practice Test 4	
DAY 28	Assess Performance and Fix Weaknesses	

### **IMPORTANT** -

This is when you should be booking your GMAT slot.

Don't book a date without scoring around your target score in the practice test. You would have improved tremendously by now, but if you're close to your target score depends on where you started and what score you're aiming for!

DAY 29	- RELAX
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Don't do anything on the last day. Relax, and rest. Visualise the test day.

## Phase 5 - ACE TEST DAY!

RELAX.
STAY CALM.
1 QUESTION AT A TIME.
BREATHE.

You've done all you can up to this point, studying for 6 hours every day! There's not much more you could have done. Stay calm and you will do well.

### **IMPORTANT** -

**Time management is key!** Sometimes the nerves take over and you want to get every single question right before moving on to the next one. Relax, getting a couple questions wrong will not impact your score! Not attempting questions will definitely impact it though. Make sure you're managing your time properly.

Pick the same section order which you've been doing in the practice tests.

That's it! You should have gotten your target score!

## 30 Day Checklist - Print This Out!

DAY	TOPICS	TIME SPENT
DAY 1	Practice Test 1	4-5 Hours
DAY 2	Performance Analysis	2-3 Hours
DAY 3	Introduction To Quant, Essential GMAT Quant Skills	4-5 Hours
DAY 4	Linear & Quadratic Equations, Properties of Numbers	5-6 Hours
DAY 5	Roots and Exponents, Inequalities and Absolute Values	5-6 Hours
DAY 6	General Word Problems, Unit Conversions	4-5 Hours
DAY 7	Rate Problems, Work Problems	4-5 Hours
DAY 8	Ratios, Percent Word Problems	4-5 Hours
DAY 9	Overlapping Sets, Statistics	4-5 Hours
DAY 10	Formula Logic, Combinations and Permutations	4-5 Hours
DAY 11	Probability, Coordinate Geometry	5-6 Hours
DAY 12	Functions and Sequences	4-5 Hours
DAY 13	Verbal - Critical Reasoning	4-5 Hours
DAY 14	Verbal - Critical Reasoning	4-5 Hours
DAY 15	Verbal - Critical Reasoning	4-5 Hours
DAY 16	Verbal - Critical Reasoning	4-5 Hours
DAY 17	Verbal - Reading Comprehension	4-5 Hours
DAY 18	Verbal - Reading Comprehension	4-5 Hours
DAY 19	Verbal - Reading Comprehension	4-5 Hours
DAY 20	Data Insights	2 Hours
DAY 21	Data Insights	3-4 Hours
DAY 22	Data Insights	3-4 Hours
DAY 23	Practice Test 2	2-3 Hours
DAY 24	Assess Performance and Fix Weaknesses	4 Hours
DAY 25	Practice Test 3	2-3 Hours
DAY 26	Assess Performance and Fix Weaknesses	4 Hours
DAY 27	Practice Test 4	2-3 Hours
DAY 28	Assess Performance and Fix Weaknesses	4 Hours
DAY 29	Relax	2-3 Hours
DAY 30	TEST DAY	4 Hours

### List of Free Resources

If you are on a time crunch (3> months), I would highly recommend using Target Test Prep.

It's an investment that will simplify your learning process and ensure you have all the tools necessary to get your target score.

If you have more time (6+ months), you could start off with the following resources:

- 1. **GMATNinja Youtube Videos**
- 2. Free practice tests on MBA.com
- 3. Free practice questions on gmatclub.com

### Again, QUALITY>QUANTITY.

Don't learn from a 100 different resources. The ones I've linked above are the best free resources I've come across.

## **ALL THE BEST!**

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