

SMART QUESTION?

HOW TO APPLY ON DAILY BASSIC

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Good communication and effective problem-solving start with asking the right questions. Let's dive into the world of SMART QUESTIONS and see how they improve understanding and outcomes.



What is smart question?

WHAT IS SMART QUESTION ?

- A smart question is a thoughtful, well-crafted inquiry that prompts meaningful conversations and solutions.
- **SMART questions** are Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-bound. They help us ask questions that are clear, practical, and focused on getting valuable information.



S - Specific

M – Measurable

A - Achievable

R - Relevant

T - Time-bound

Smart Question Formula

SPECIFIC

• A specific question is clear and focused. It targets a particular piece of information or aspect of a problem, avoiding vagueness. Instead of asking a broad question, narrow it down to address a specific detail or concern

Example: Instead of asking, "How can we improve our project?" a specific question would be, "What specific steps can we take to enhance collaboration among team members in our project?"

MEASURABLE

• A measurable question allows for a concrete answer or a quantifiable result. It helps in assessing progress and understanding the extent or impact of a situation.

Example: Instead of asking, "Is the project progressing well?" a measurable question would be, "What key performance indicators can we use to measure the success of our project, and what are the current values for those indicators?"

Achievable

• An achievable question is realistic and can be answered with the available resources and information. It avoids asking for things that are beyond reach or impractical.

Example: Instead of asking, "How can we completely eliminate all project risks?" an achievable question would be , "What practical steps can we take to mitigate the most critical risks in our project within the given timeframe?"

RELEVANT

• A relevant question is directly related to the topic or problem at hand. It ensures that the information sought after is pertinent and valuable to the situation.

Example: Instead of asking, "What is the history of project management?" a relevant question would be, "How does the historical evolution of project management practices impact our current project management approach?"

Time-bound

• A time-bound question includes a specific timeframe for the response or action. It helps in setting deadlines and creating a sense of urgency.

Example: Instead of asking, "When can we discuss project improvements?" a time-bound question would be, "Can we schedule a meeting by the end of this week to discuss and finalize the proposed project improvements?"

EXAMPLE

- Instead of: "What are the benefits of renewable energy?"
- Ask: "By 2025, how can we increase solar energy use in our city by 20%, reducing our carbon footprint by 10%?"
- Instead of: "How can we improve teamwork?"
- **Ask:** "What specific communication strategies can we implement within the next quarter to improve collaboration on project X, leading to a 15% increase in efficiency?"

=> Don't just ask about possibilities, define your target and ignite action!

How to apply

How to apply smart question in work & daily basis

HOW TO APPLY IN WORK & DAILY BASIS

• Approach:

1. Identify your area of focus: What problem are you trying to solve? What goal are you striving for? be specific, avoid generalities.

2. Set S.M.A.R.T. criteria:

- > **Specific:** Define the precise aspect you want to address. Don't say "improve communication," say "improve team collaboration on project X by 15%."
- > Measurable: Determine how you'll gauge progress. Use numbers, deadlines, or observable outcomes.
- ➤ **Attainable:** Set realistic goals within your capacity and resources. Remember, "stretch goals" are okay, but avoid setting yourself up for failure.
- > Relevant: Ensure the question aligns with your priorities and objectives. Don't waste time on irrelevant inquiries.
- > Time-bound: Establish a timeframe for achieving the desired outcome. Create a sense of urgency and focus.
- **3. Craft your question:** Use the S.M.A.R.T. criteria to formulate a question that guides you towards action. Don't ask "what can I do better?" Ask "what specific skills or resources can I acquire within the next 6 months to achieve X?"
- **4. Take action:** Don't just ask answer! Use the insights gained from your S.M.A.R.T. question to develop a plan, implement solutions, and monitor progress.
- **5. Adapt and iterate:** As you move forward, adjust your questions and strategies based on feedback and results. S.M.A.R.T. questioning is a continuous process, not a one-time effort.

