

General Study Suggestions

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The most important thing to do to get ready for the test is to be caught up on the homework and then work on a couple of practice tests (available on <http://www.math.washington.edu/~m125/Quizzes/Q4.php>). Here's one plan for studying. Note that it needs to be started now; it won't fit into one or two evenings.

1. Catch up on any assigned homework that you haven't done.
2. Make a first draft of your notes, using extra space to include everything you think you need.
3. Work a practice test or a good selection of the review problems, then check the answers.
4. Identify topics for which you want more practice. Do more problems on those topics: ones that weren't assigned, or redo ones you've forgotten how they went. Get help (study group, office hours, MSC) if needed. Add to your notes if needed, and consider what in your notes may be superfluous.
5. Do one or two more practice tests. Work at least one test with an 80 minute time limit. Practice choosing which problems to tackle first and when to leave a problem because it is taking you too long or lowering your confidence level. (After the timed test period, finish any problem you didn't finish under the time limit, for more practice.) Aim for identifying the ideas and skills involved in each problem (not just "this one is like that homework problem or example, so I can mimic the steps I did before").
6. Rewrite your notes, eliminating things you don't need and organizing the rest for easiest use during the test.
7. Get a good night's sleep before the test, and have your normal breakfast (not just a double espresso).