

A Quick Guide to
Different Types of Learners*

Visual Learners:

- Need to see it to know it
- Have good senses with colour (e.g. artistic abilities)
- Might have trouble with spoken directions (i.e. trouble following lectures)
- May misinterpret words, or overreact to sounds in general

Suggestions:

- * Use organized graphics
- * Try colour-coding notes, or research material
- * Always have written instructions for assignments
- * Visualization aids (e.g. flow charts, diagrams, etc.) can help with notes

Auditory Learners:

- Good listeners – need to hear directions in order to follow them
- Issues with understanding body language and facial expressions

Suggestions:

- * Consider recorded lectures, notes, etc.
- * Try group study sessions, and/or participation in discussion
- * When doing essays, try reading allowed the material as much as possible while undergoing the writing/editing process

Haptic/Kinesthetic Learners:

- Learning is best made possible by *doing* for these kinds of learners
- Learn best when physicality is involved
- Typically well-coordinated, and potentially athletic

Suggestions:

- * Interactive learning works best
- * Consider doing a physical activity while reading/rehearsing, etc.
- * Using a computer to make or revise notes is a good technique for haptic/kinesthetic learners

Keep in mind that most people can be (and typically are) a combination of these styles!

**Adapted from Brace, Gordon, and Schumaker's
"Manual for Writing Centre Tutors"*