

Khan Academy FAQ

What is Khan Academy?

Khan Academy is a freely available, and continually growing collection of short educational videos and practice exercises. Take a look at some of the videos and maybe Salman Khan's TEDtalk, try some of the exercises, read the website About page, and maybe the Wikipedia article.

Sal Khan's Keynote Speech at the Foundation for Excellence in Education Conference (10/2011) provides the best description of Khan Academy: <http://wpc.230d.edgecastcdn.net/00230D/august2/fee/webcast/index.html> (under Video Selection on the right click on Keynote Lunch Sal Khan).

What is the URL for Khan Academy?

<http://www.khanacademy.org>

Do I need to log in to explore Khan Academy?

You can explore the website, view videos and try practice exercises without logging in. Data is not collected on videos viewed or practice exercise results unless you are logged in.

Do I need to create an account to login to Khan Academy?

You can log into Khan Academy with either a Google or FaceBook ID. You can also create an Khan Academy ID. You will need to provide an email address and you birthdate. After creating an ID you can create child IDs for students 13 and under.

When you login for the first time with a Google ID you will see a the message: *Google is not affiliated with the contents of Khan Academy Exercises or its owners. If you sign in, Google will share your email address with Khan Academy Exercises but not your password or any other personal information.* Logging in with Facebook will result in a similar message.

What are Coaches?

On the Coach tab, users may specify Coaches by entering their Coaches ID(s) or by accepting a request to Coach from another users ID. Coaches are given access to users progress data through a set of tools being developed by Khan Academy. These tools are being enhanced frequently.

Users may have multiple Coaches. For students frequently both the teacher and parent are specified as Coaches. You can also specify yourself as a Coach to your login id. This will give you access to the progress monitoring tools.

Can I Coach myself?

When logged in you can specify yourself as a Coach giving you access to the progress monitoring tools under the Coach tab.

I watched a video but can't find the exercise, where is it?

There is not a one to one correlation between Videos and Exercises. Exercises have been developed for many but not all videos.

When watching a video, the left side of the web page lists the topic, for example Addition and Subtraction, and the videos included in the topic with the current video highlighted. This list shows the recommended sequence of videos and related exercises. In this list, videos are flagged with a video icon, and exercises are flagged with an exercise (a star) icon.

NOTE: Currently only the Basic Addition and Subtraction topic include both exercises and videos in the topic list when viewing videos. I think the other topics will be updated to include exercises soon. Other topic, for example Multiplication and Division now have a video topic list on the left side of the screen.

What is the Knowledge Map?

Click on the **Practice** tab to see the Knowledge Map. The Knowledge Map shows an overview of the exercises and where in the map the user is currently working. You can zoom out to see the layout of the total knowledge map, or zoom in to see the layout in more detail.

The exercises listed on the left side of the web page under the title **Suggested** help you track where you are when progressing through a series of exercises and videos.

You can search for exercises by entering a skill, such as **addition**, in the search box at the top of the column. The list of exercises related to this skill will be display.

You can browse all exercises by clicking on **Show All** at the bottom of the list. You can then use your browsers Find option to locate exercises in this list.

What are Achievements?

Achievements are badges and patches earned for significant activity. For example, Challenge Patches are earned for achieving proficiency in a topic by completing the related set of exercises.

What's a good place to start?

If your objective is to Coach pick a point in the knowledge map where you might want to start a student and start by watching videos and doing exercises until you have a feel for the content. Look at your Vital Statistics as you progress through the videos and exercises. Vital Statistics are on the Practice tab on the upper right side of the screen.

A good way to get a feel for the exercises is to pick one of the Challenges by locating it on the knowledge map and clicking on it. See if you can complete it. It doesn't have to be hard, try doing the Arithmetic Challenge while watching TV some evening.

If your objective is to learn something new using Khan Academy, look through the list of videos by topic under the Watch tab for something you are familiar with but not totally competent in. Currently the exercises are mostly for math videos.

Do I need to save my work when I stop?

No, as long as you are logged in, videos watched, and exercises worked are saved as they are completed.

How to I get back to where I was when I logged out?

If you have forgotten what you were doing when you last logged in, select the Practice tab, and click on Vital Statistics (on the right side of the screen). This will display your recent activity.

What happened, something looks different in Khan Academy?

Khan Academy is a work in progress. They are continually adding new videos, exercises, and progress monitoring tools, and reorganizing. Just look around, explore what's new, and go with the flow.

Where can I find a list of all the Exercises?

Click on the Practice tab. Under Exercises on the left side of the screen recommended exercises are displayed if you are logged in. Click on **Show All** at the bottom of the recommended exercises list. The Knowledge Map also provides this information in map form. You can zoom in, zoom out, and pan around the Knowledge Map.

What is the best way to find a video on a specific topic?

Use the search box to locate video titles with the keyword you are looking for. Use your browser search feature from on the Watch tab -> browse all videos to locate keywords in the video title. When you think you've found a video you can pan the video to preview the type of problems worked before listening to it. Searching on the word **intuition** will locate videos with interesting background information.

Where can I get more information?

See the Khan Academy FAQ at <http://khanacademy.desk.com/> . There is a link to the FAQ at the bottom of most Khan Academy pages.

Do all exercises require exact numeric answers?

Many of the basic arithmetic exercises do, but not all. Exercises in other topics may accept other types of answers such as multiple choice. Be sure to look at the acceptable formats for answers when working exercises, simplifying and reducing fractions are not always required. One particularly interesting exercise is Line Graph intuition.

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