SAT/ACT Guides

1. Account Setup & Registration

The SAT is administered digitally via the College Board's **Bluebook™** app.

1. **Create/Log Into Your Account:** Go to satsuite.collegeboard.org and log in to your College Board account (or create one if you don't have it).
2. **Register Online:**
    - Choose your preferred test date and local test center.
    - Upload a clear headshot photo that meets College Board photo requirements.
    - Pay the registration fee ($68) or apply for a **Fee Waiver** through your high school counselor if eligible (covers two free tests, unlimited score sends, and college application fee waivers).
3. **Send Direct Score Reports (Optional):** During registration, you can select up to **4 colleges** to receive your scores for free. *Note: If you want to see your score before sending it, skip this step and pay to send scores later.*

2. Technology Setup (Digital SAT Prep)

Since the SAT is taken on a device, getting your testing hardware ready in advance is mandatory.

- **Approved Devices:** You can use a personal laptop (Mac/Windows), an iPad, a school-issued Chromebook, or a school-managed device.
- **Download Bluebook™:** Install the official **Bluebook** application from College Board on the device you plan to bring on test day.
- **Device Requirements:**
    - Ensure your battery can last at least 3 hours without charging (though test centers usually have outlets, don't rely on them entirely).
    - External mice and keyboards are allowed for tablets/laptops if desired.

3. Prep Strategy & Free Resources

With limited time as a senior, target your prep on high-yield areas and adaptive test mechanics.

Understanding Test Structure

The Digital SAT consists of two main sections divided into two adaptive modules each:

Section	Modules	Questions	Time
Reading and Writing	2 Modules	54 Total (27 per module)	64 Min (32 min per module)

Math	2 Modules	44 Total (22 per module)	70 Min (35 min per module)

*Note: The test is **section-adaptive**. How well you perform on Module 1 determines the difficulty level of Module 2.*

Recommended Prep Workflow

1. **Take a Diagnostic Practice Test:** Log into the **Bluebook app** and take *Full-Length Practice Test 1* under timed conditions. This gives you a true baseline score and familiarizes you with the interface (built-in Desmos graphing calculator, timer, highlight tool).
2. **Analyze Your Mistakes:** Review every wrong answer. Categorize them:
    - *Content gap* (e.g., forgot grammar rules or quadratic equations)
    - *Time management issue*
    - *Misread the prompt*
3. **Targeted Practice via Official Tools:**
    - **Official Digital SAT Prep on Khan Academy:** Link your College Board account to Khan Academy for customized, free lessons focused on your weak spots.
    - **Master Desmos:** The built-in Desmos calculator is available for the *entire* Math section. Learning how to solve system of equations, functions, and regressions directly in Desmos can save immense time.
4. **Take 1–2 More Full-Length Bluebook Tests:** Space these out weekly leading up to test day to track progress and build testing stamina.

4. Test Day Checklist

What to Pack the Night Before

- **Admission Ticket:** Printed from your Bluebook account after completing the setup steps (available 1–5 days before the test).
- **Valid Photo ID:** Driver's license, passport, or official school ID card.
- **Testing Device:** Fully charged with the Bluebook app installed and setup completed.
- **Device Charger:** Bring your power adapter just in case.
- **Approved Calculator:** Optional, as Desmos is built into the software, but you may bring an approved handheld calculator (e.g., TI-84) if you prefer tactile keys.
- **Pencils/Pens:** For scratch paper (scratch paper is provided by the test center).
- **Snack & Water:** For the single 10-minute break between Reading/Writing and Math.

Test Day Timeline

- **7:45 AM:** Arrive at the test center. Doors close promptly at 8:00 AM.
- **8:15 AM - 8:30 AM:** Seating, device connection to local Wi-Fi, and start code entry.
- **11:30 AM - 12:00 PM:** Approximate dismissal time.

5. Post-Test & Score Reporting

1. **Score Arrival:** Scores appear in your College Board account roughly **2 weeks** after the test.
2. **Review Score Choice Policies:**
    - Check if your target colleges accept **Superscoring** (combining your highest Reading/Writing score and highest Math score across multiple test dates).
    - Check if your colleges require **Self-Reported Scores** (entering scores manually in Common App for free) or **Official Score Reports** directly from College Board.

3. **Retake Plan:** If your score falls short of your target and you have a remaining test date before deadlines, register immediately for the next available administration.