



## **Strategy for Sketch Noting**

Sketch Noting is a form of Doodling or Visual Note taking.

Begin by reading a designated portion of text.

Next stop and visualize that portion that you have just read.

Draw what you have just read. You can change words into symbols, objects, lettering, arrows, dividers, boxes, colors, etc.

What you create does not have to be perfect.

Feel free to use this as a rough draft.

In the next step you can write about the visual content you have created in one or two sentences.

Additionally, connect your ideas by framing or use arrows and lines.



## TIPS FOR SKETCHNOTES

---

- **Draw!** First and foremost. Sprinkle your words with rough illustrations and diagrams — you can always expand on your scribbles later. Nothing needs to be perfect. Important: Always carry a small notebook — something with unlined pages or a grid. Or try sketch noting on your iPad or tablet.
- **Edit.** No need to capture everything that's said word for word — just paraphrase the idea in a way that resonates with you. But do use quote marks or some indicator when you write down a direct quote.
- **Chunk.** Use separators and boxes, avoid too much linearity — edit live, as if you are writing a tweet and are aware of your space limitations.
- **Work.** Work on your buffer — get used to listening to one thing while drawing the last thing you heard. It's difficult at first but keep trying and you'll be surprised at the mental cache you can develop. It's just exercise for your brain.
- **Rest.** If something you're strenuously trying to capture goes down a rabbit hole or gets boring, don't feel bad abandoning your note-taking for the moment — you'll be rested for when things get interesting again.
- **Practice.** Sketch note TED talks or radio stories, conversations, meetings, movies, and songs. That way you'll figure out your own secrets and shortcuts. Also, if you work in a certain field and things, themes, and theories tend to appear over and over again, try to get used to drawing them. For example, a real estate agent should be able to draw decent houses, trees, furniture, family pets, etc. at a moment's notice. That way you don't waste valuable sketching time by keeping the concepts in your head.

adapted from <http://dachisgroup.com/the-sketchnote-revolution/>