Guides to Learning Mechanics

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1. Look back even unto your youth and remember your prior basic mathematics and other specified prerequisites.

2. Learn the basics from the *Speaking Teacher* in your class, as well as the *Silent Teacher* on the pages of your books and the Internet.

3. Distinguish *weight* (in N or lb) from *mass* (in kg or slug) in mechanics, and apply $W = mg$ as needed.

4. Master first the fundamental concepts and principles, then double check each step before putting your heavy foot down on the next.

5. Identify all forces and moments acting *on* a body by drawing a good free-body diagram (*FBD*).

6. Ignore the teachings of doing all your work without sketches or jotting down relevant equations.

7. Read your problem carefully, and then solve it using right procedure.

8. Look it up when you do not know; and if your search still eludes you, you shall ask for help from your Teacher, your TA, or others.

9. Use "common sense" to check your answers; else you could assert compressive forces in ropes and even fathers younger than sons.

10. Learn, read, write, listen, and speak correctly in the language of mechanics; and verily *A*'s or *B*'s shall follow you unto the end of the course and even unto graduation.