

How I Learn New Things: My Somewhat Disorganized Approach

4 MIN • YOUTUBE • [HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/1QMA-DPAIJW](https://youtu.be/1QMA-DPAIJW)

<https://youtu.be/1QMA-DpAIJw>

SUMMARY

The speaker shares their informal approach to learning, emphasizing a lack of structure unless the topic is job-related. They prefer a disorganized method of absorbing information, which allows them to ask better questions without the pressure of memorization or appearing knowledgeable in social settings.

- *The speaker does not use notes or organized systems for casual learning.*
- *They believe in absorbing information without the expectation of retaining every detail.*
- *For job-related learning, they create a simple, unstructured Google Doc to compile useful links.*
- *This document serves as a resource for themselves and their team, encouraging collaborative input.*
- *The speaker values a "write-friendly" approach to avoid judgment and hesitation in updating resources.*
- *They find that over time, their informal learning leads to deeper understanding and pattern recognition.*
- *The speaker is not motivated by the desire to impress others with knowledge at social events.*

[Music] there is no process like I don't have any kind of notes or bookmarks or uh a list that I keep going back to I don't plan my learning a whole lot unless it is about a specific domain that I want to learn about as part of my job let me just describe that a little bit more with an example say I want to learn about how home mortgages work work

because in my personal life I need to get a new mortgage or whatever interest rates are going up I will actually not organize anything I'll not create a list like these are core resources I'll just read a bunch of stuff it's disorganized I don't book Market I don't have any kind of note taking system nothing of that sort I just absorb and I accept that I'm going to forget some stuff and it's not going to be precise what

happens to me though as I do that is I gain enough of an understanding which helps me ask the right questions so I'm not aiming to be an expert in home mortgages which is why I don't need to be really systematic hey if you're very passionate and interested in home mortgages and it's unrelated to your job then sure by all means get organized do whatever you want but I find that some people sometimes do these things just to sound

smart to their friends or in Social Circles that's just not attractive to me so I don't care about that but I do find that people sometimes they overdo some of these things for the wrong reasons again if you're passionate about it fine but I don't do anything in my life so I can sound very smart or Savvy or smarter than you at a party in fact I'm very boring at parties you don't want to hang

out with me at a party now if it is related to a new domain that I'm learning for my job where it is crucial for my job I will be very organized for that my simple tactic is I create a plain Google doc and it is a write friendly Google doc not a read friendly Google doc so what that means is that I don't need to think about making it look nice or organizing it by priorities or

sorting it or font sizes nothing all I do is I make it a repository of Great Links related to this topic as an example I had to learn this really complex domain it's the most complex domain I have ever worked in I've worked in some very complex domains but this is like another level altogether it's a point of sale payments in-person payments like most of us including myself don't realize just how immensely complex that domain is I had no idea

about how they work but I was supposed to lead this product for stripe that was an inperson payments so I just did my usual thing I just systematically approached okay what are the right places to learn started at the top curated and created this huge reference of the useful links related to this topic and then I went back to them because I don't have a great memory especially when it comes to details so sometimes I have to go back to certain things to

kind of just refresh my memory so it was useful in that sense and then at some point that became a good resource that I shared with the team which is like hey anybody new who wants to learn about inperson point of sale payments just look at this document and I would ask them to add links as well that they found useful but again write friendly not read friendly because when you make it read friendly there's a lot of hesit

itation about being judged and there's a lot of hesitation about updating the document I don't want that so those are some ways that I find useful to distinguish between where I will get organized again that means by definition that I'll be organized in my learning in very few things but in all the rest I'm like fairly disorganized that's how my brain works right I just read a bunch of stuff and then over time I think about

it if it's something I care about even when I'm not reading it and that thinking kind of just creates certain patterns and then over time I can start seeing the Matrix I don't plan for it but I know it will happen which is why this disorganized approach works for me [Music]