

Thinking About Serving?



[Get the information you need](#) to decide if a military career is right for you. No obligation -- just free information from the branches of service that interest you.

Taking the [Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery \(ASVAB\)](#) is a necessary and important step in joining the military. Here are 4 tips, which could make a big difference in qualifying or staying qualified for the military.

1. Be prepared. When you walk into a recruiter's office to get information, many times recruiters will offer you to take the ASVAB, maybe even that evening. If you are not prepared to take the test, don't take it. The right preparation can make a big difference. You should only take the test if you're prepared and feel comfortable with your skills. Here are a few tips to help you prepare. The overall score (AFQT) is made up of 4 areas: word knowledge, reading comprehension, arithmetic reasoning and math knowledge so brushing up in these areas can be important. Math is the easiest area to self-teach and this can help immensely. Study basic math such as adding and subtracting fractions and percents, solving for X, division, and multiplication. Remember to stick to the basics. Concentrate your efforts on the math! With the word knowledge and reading comprehension areas, slow down and look for root words, narrow down your choices and select the best answer. Reading the dictionary to learn word meanings is not practical and very time consuming. Be sure to check out the [Military.com ASVAB practice tests](#).

2. Don't leave any question blank, none of them. If you don't know, guess! If you have 30 seconds left to test and 20 questions left to answer, make sure all are answered! If it is left blank it will always be wrong. At least if you mark an answer there's a chance you will get it right.

3. Retest only if absolutely needed. It is not a contest to see if you can score higher than your friend. If you have qualifying line scores for what you want to do, then absolutely, positively, do not retest! I have seen way too many people retest only to score lower and even fail and not qualify to join the military. Remember only retest if absolutely necessary.

4. Avoid taking the same test. If you retest at a [MET-site](#), it is imperative to know what version or versions of the test you have already taken. Retaking the same test will result in an invalid test and you will have to wait the required amount of time to retest, this could be up to a 6 month wait depending on how many previous tests you have taken. Many MET-sites do not have the capability to see what previous version of the test you have taken. Your recruiter can get you the version of the tests you have already taken.

These tips are meant to give you an edge when you take the ASVAB. Add these 4 tips to the many others I am sure you already have and you should be well prepared to ace the test. Remember, all anybody can ask is for you to do your best.