

Mnemonic Devices to Aid Memory

Mnemonic	Explanation
Rhyming Peg System	<p>Remembering ordered or unordered items by first memorizing a list of keywords that rhyme with a sequence of digits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One is sun • Two is shoe • Three is tree • Four is door • Five is hive • Six is bricks • Seven is heaven • Eight is gate • Nine is fine • Ten is hen
Acronyms	A word or phrase made entirely of letters that are cues to words we must remember (e.g., HOMES for the Great Lakes: Huron, Ontario, Michigan, Erie, and Superior).
Acrostics	A sentence in which the first letter of each word is a cue. For example, "A Rat In The House Might Eat The Ice Cream"; the first letters spell <i>arithmetic</i> .
Method of Loci	Using a place and the objects in it to associate with a list of items. Choose a starting place, and as you go around the room, place the item with the object (e.g., bedroom: dresser is for the first item, bed is for second, lamp for third, picture for fourth, window for fifth, etc.).
Chaining	Constructing a story that contains each element of a list. For example: items to be remembered are counties in the south of England: Avon, Dorset, Somerset, Cornwall, Wiltshire, Devon, Gloucestershire, Hampshire, and Surrey. An <u>Avon</u> lady came to my <u>Dor</u> and set down her wares. She said she had <u>Some</u> more to <u>set</u> , but the <u>Corn</u> was growing over the <u>wall</u> of her shop. She said that she was <u>shire</u> (sure) that the <u>Devil</u> was <u>on</u> her trail. She had <u>Glossy</u> teeth with bits of <u>Ham</u> stuck in them. <u>Sure</u> enough, I slammed the door!
Music and Rhythm	Create a song or rhyme for the information to be remembered. A great example: In the movie <i>Born Yesterday</i> , the amendments to the Constitution are sung.