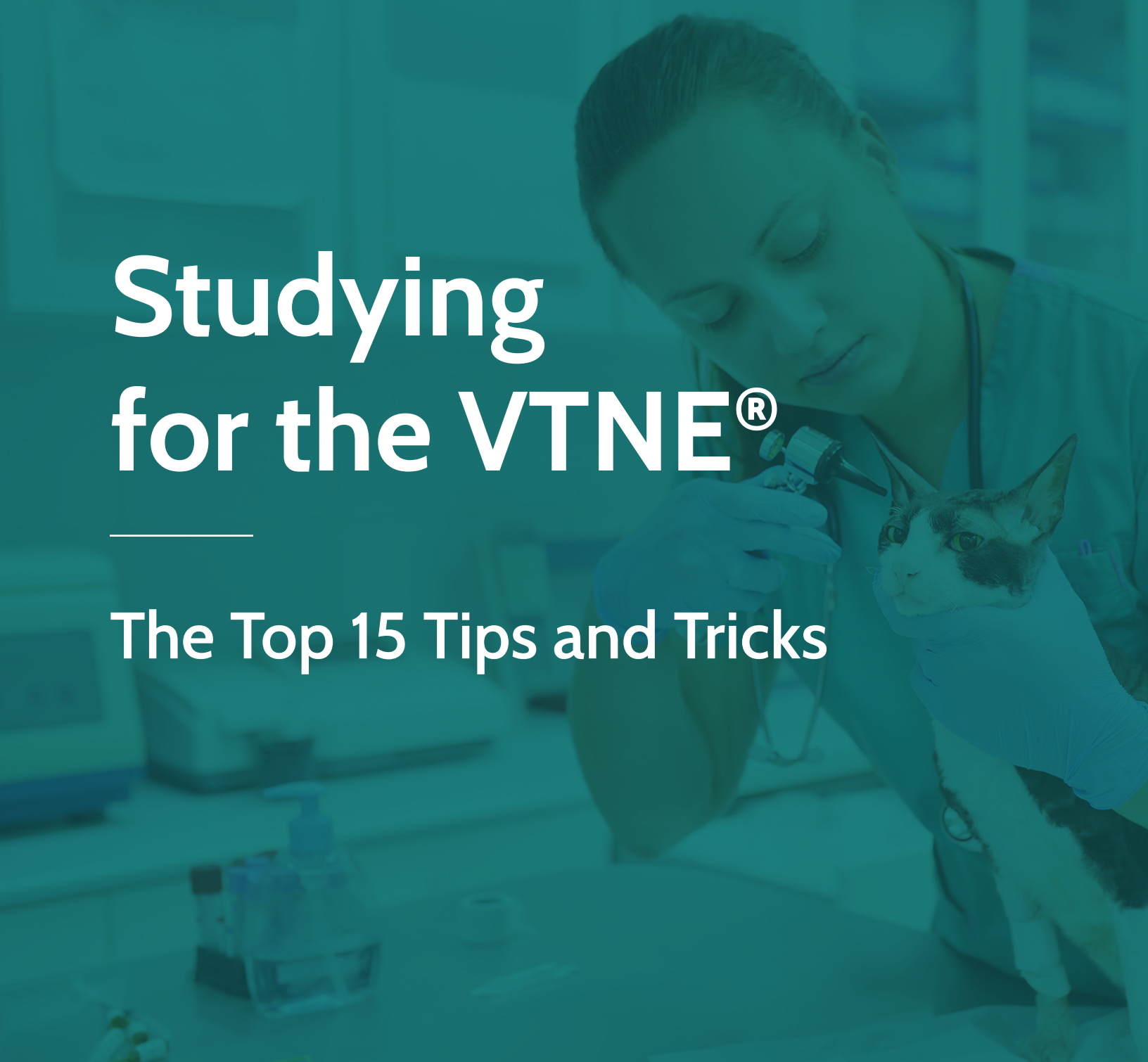




Studying for the VTNE®

The Top 15 Tips and Tricks

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Studying for the VTNE can be a very daunting task. There is so much information on a wealth of different topics that you're going to need to know; just getting started can be overwhelming. The good news is that, depending on your program, you have likely spent the last two years preparing for this very test! You have already invested so much in your education, therefore spending a few months preparing for the biggest test of your life will be very well worth it when you sit down to take the exam and you're relaxed and fully prepared to tackle the beast.

We've put together a **ton of great tips and tricks** for studying for the VTNE that will help you thoroughly prepare for the big day. *Remember, you've made it this far and you can do this!*

1 Familiarize Yourself With the Test Format

Be familiar with the test format so that you can spend less time on the tutorials come test day. This will make the day shorter for you. If you know in advance that the test is 170 questions (20 of those are pilot questions that will not be counted) to be completed in 3 hours, then you will be able to better budget your time on test day. You may take breaks during the exam, but the time clock will continue to run, so allocate your bathroom breaks and snack time in a way that makes the most sense for you.

2 Tackle the Weak Subjects Early

Schedule special study time for your weak subjects before the exam. If large animal subjects tend to be your nemesis, try to spend as much time as possible reviewing these areas before your test date. Familiarize yourself with the VTNE subjects before starting practice questions; it will make studying a little less tedious. There are ten Domains on the VTNE: Pharmacy & Pharmacology, Surgical Nursing, Dentistry, Laboratory Procedures, Animal Care and Nursing, Diagnostic Imaging, Anesthesia, Emergency Medicine/Critical Care, Communication and Veterinary Professional Support Services, and Pain Management/Analgesia. These same study domains can be found on VetTechPrep.com as you prepare for the exam.

3 Start Sooner and Ease Into It

If you wait too long to start studying or dive in too quickly, you're going to stress yourself out. Instead, start early and keep it light in the beginning to ease into it. To gradually get into the test-taking mode, sign up for our free weekly Dose of VetTechPrep email and you will get an interactive test prep question delivered to your email every week. Also, like us on Facebook and Instagram for questions, program resources, and events related to VTNE preparation.



4 Stay on Track With a Study Time Line

Try to make a study timeline to help yourself stay on track (and check out the three tailored timelines we've put together for you below!). When you are nearing finals, you will have less time to study, so allow yourself more time for studying before that. It is important to be realistic. Ideally, you would study two hours every night and 10 hours every weekend, but when you are busy working on your clinical skills for practical exams or taking mid-terms, it is impossible that you will be able to keep up with such an aggressive regimen.

5 Don't Go At It Alone!

Study with a friend or study at a coffee shop so you continue to feel like a real person. Check out our social pages for opportunities to win your school a Pizza Prep Party!

6 Plan Ahead

Give yourself a minimum of two months to study for the test (most students use 90-day programs on VetTechPrep, but we recommend a 180-day subscription). Start studying by September for the November/December window, January for the March/April window, and May for the July/August window. Starting too early will result in forgetting subjects that you learned and starting too late will mean stress and cramming. This is just a guideline and you have to do what is right for you.

7 Write Down Difficult Topics to Improve Recall

When you come across difficult subjects, write them down (with a pen!). If you need to make yourself a chart or diagram for pharmacology drugs to help you learn them, then take the time to do so. Writing helps commit information to long-term memory.



8 Pay Attention to Cases

Take time to review the cases you encounter in your rotations or in the veterinary hospital where you may work as this provides a great opportunity to apply your theoretical knowledge to real-world experience. This can make your test questions very applicable. The VTNE has increased its clinical-based questions, so paying attention to cases will only help you. Also, looking things up while you are in school will teach you how to efficiently find information when you are working as a veterinary technician in practice, which is ultimately the most important part of the entire process.

9 It's All About the Real World

Remember that this is a test for entry-level veterinary technicians. Concentrate on the subjects that are of real-world importance AND are most likely to end up on the VTNE. For example, there will be many more questions about dogs and cats than there will be about guinea pigs and roosters, although you may have some random or obscure questions. Don't stress about those. If you don't know the answer, eliminate the choices you can and make your best-educated guess based on what you do know.

10 Break Study Time into Smaller Sessions

Study for 4 to 15 hours per week. Break this time up into smaller study sessions. These numbers are based on responses from vet tech students provided on previous questionnaires and as you can see, there is a pretty large range based on individual needs.

11 Practice, Practice, Practice!

Take the practice exams. This will help you get comfortable with multiple-choice questions and manage your time. Our practice exams were built to mimic the format of the VTNE so the more of those you complete, the more you will be prepared for the big exam. Studying your notes, books, and PowerPages is invaluable to your learning, and practicing how to excel at mastering multiple-choice tests (with lots of practice) is key to passing the VTNE. Reading the full question, thinking of your answer, and narrowing down your choices are all important multiple-choice test-taking skills you will develop and fine-tune with VetTechPrep.

12 Save Resources on Harder Material and Keep References Nearby

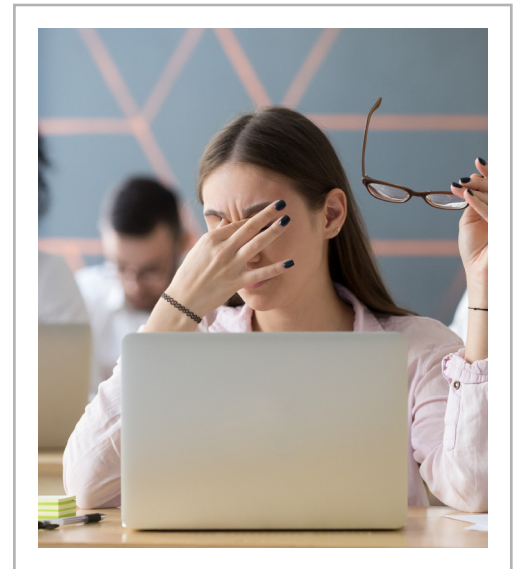
When you come across a subject that needs more review, write it down and then find the resource that explains it best to you: PowerPages, class notes, etc. It's also a good idea to keep Plumb's Veterinary Drug Handbook or other formulary, and the Merck manual near you while you study. When you come across a medication or condition that you don't know, look it up.

13 Slow and Steady Wins the Race

Read the questions slowly and carefully. Rushing will sometimes result in answering the question incorrectly.

14 Be Healthy and Avoid Burnout

Be sure to take study breaks, exercise, eat healthy foods, and avoid burnout. This probably sounds a little like your mom talking, but we're serious. Take care of yourself. Medical professionals are notorious for neglecting their own needs much to the detriment of their health.



15 Scope Out Test Day Ahead of Time

Review the VTNE website (AAVSB.org) well in advance so you know what to expect, where you will be going, how long the test will take, how many questions you will answer, what you are allowed to bring with you, what you need for identification, and more. This will take a lot of the stress out of test day and reduce anxiety. Bring identification and arrive 30 minutes early! Test takers who are late to the Prometric Testing Center or have ID problems are denied entry and are considered unexcused.

Tailored VetTechPrep Study Programs

The Go-getter: 90-Day Study Program

✓ **There's Nothing Wrong with a Little Extra Time**

Some students want a little extra time to study and there's no shame in that! We recommend this so you don't feel rushed and stressed before the testing date.

✓ **Ease into Study Mode with an Interactive Test Prep Question in Your Email Every Week and get Facts of the Day on our Facebook Page**

To gradually get into the test-taking mode, sign up for our free weekly Dose of VetTechPrep email and you'll get an interactive test prep question delivered to your email every week.

✓ **Start with PowerPages**

We recommend starting with the VetTechPrep PowerPages. Go through the PowerPages, making your way through five per week over the three months. Supplement the information in PowerPages with your class notes and textbooks for further information if needed.

✓ **Complete 15-20 Questions per Day for 90 Days**

To keep it interesting, we recommend completing 15-20 practice questions per day during the subscription and studying and reading through 4-5 PowerPages per week.

✓ **Complete About 150 Questions per Week and Follow the Three-month Study Program**

For the three months of your subscription, you will need to complete roughly 150 questions per week to finish the program in time for your exam.

The Procrastinator: 45-Day Study Program

✓ **Need Some Last-minute Help Getting Over the Finish Line?**

It isn't too late! You can use VetTechPrep's 45-day subscription to focus on your weak areas before the VTNE. VetTechPrep uses statistics and feedback to help you figure out where you may need additional help.

✓ **Sign up to Receive an Interactive Test Prep Question in Your Email Every Week and get Facts of the Day on our Facebook Page**

To get into test-taking mode, sign up for our free weekly Dose of VetTechPrep email and you'll get an interactive test prep question delivered to your email every week.

✓ **Start with PowerPages**

We recommend starting with the VetTechPrep PowerPages. Go through the PowerPages, making your way through 9-10 per week in this six-week period. You will also need to start practicing questions right away!

✓ **Complete 35-40 Questions per Day during your Subscription**

For this subscription, we recommend completing 35-40 practice questions per day along with reading the PowerPages as mentioned above.

You will need to finish about 250 questions per week to finish the program in time for your exam. Take timed exams at the end of each week to get used to doing the exams on the computer and with a time-limit. We recommend doing four of the 60-minute timed exams per week. This will get you used to taking a timed computer test as a simulation of the VTNE.



The Premier Online VTNE® Study Tool

Prepare for the VTNE® with practice questions and detailed answer explanations in a format that mimics the actual exam.



Study with the Actual VTNE® Format

Every aspect of our practice exams was carefully designed to simulate a real VTNE® exam



Questions Written by Experts

Carefully crafted questions and detailed answer explanations written and peer-reviewed by experts



Review Key Topics with PowerPages

Detailed summaries for quick and efficient review of key VTNE® subjects



Choose the Plan that's Right for You

45, 60, and 90-day subscriptions available

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Once you transition from theory to practice, we provide advice for clinical settings and continuing education, helping you navigate the practical aspects of your veterinary career with confidence.

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