

Active Listening

Learn Now Guide



Learn on your own

- Assess your listening skills to give you an idea of where to focus your learning effort.
- **Learn five specific listening strategies** you can implement immediately by reading this <u>article</u>.
- Understand the six most important listening skills by listening to this <u>podcast</u>.
- **Practice your active listening skills**. Start with focus and understanding to avoid incorrect assumptions. This <u>video</u> can help you.
- **Listen and give feedback**, <u>as shown in this video</u>, to better help you hear what another is *really* saying. Filtering information through our own assumptions can negatively impact communication.



Learn from others

- Assess your listening skills. Identify a colleague or resource who will be objective and have no problem challenging you. Ask that person for an honest assessment of your listening skills. Accept any reasonable suggestions for improvement.
- **Refine for your understanding** of <u>body language and other non-verbal forms of communication</u>. Find a coach or a mentor that can help you.
- **Ask your manager for feedback** specific to your listening skills as part of the regular check-ins with your manager.



Learn by doing

- Keep listening a little bit longer. The next time you have a desire to say something in a meeting/conversation, don't.
- **Encourage in-depth conversation** by making a list of and use open-ended questions.
- **Try a 30 day listening challenge!** Ready to take action? Learn more by watching this Lynda.com <u>playlist</u>.

