

Meetings are powerful tools when conducted correctly. Before scheduling a meeting, review the acronym SET-ASIDE-QD to ensure success.

S	Size	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that the size of the meeting matches the purpose. Recognize that you may not be able to solve a problem or make a decision efficiently if there are more than eight attendees.
E	Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek feedback from meeting participants to ensure the needs of the group are met and to inform future meetings.
T	Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assign a default meeting time of 30 minutes, as most meetings can be accomplished within this time period. Extend the time interval to one hour for significant decision-making, brainstorming, or strategizing meetings.
A	Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Distribute an agenda at least two business days prior to each meeting to allow ample time for participants to review. Ask participants to contribute to the agenda items in advance through a working document. State the purpose of each agenda item and time allotment. Outline the goal(s) of each agenda item such as idea-generating or action-oriented.
S	Scope	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Define the charge of the group and individual participant roles.
I	Introductions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask each participant to introduce themselves with their titles and scope of practice.
D	Decision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determine a decision-making process (e.g., majority vote, chairperson decision) for the meeting and each agenda item.
E	Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Define the groups' expectations at the first meeting and reiterate at each meeting. Set the tone and ground rules (e.g., laptops, engagement expectations). Recognize that the person that called the meeting does not need to be responsible for all of the follow-up items. Encourage all participants to share ideas by creating an inclusive and supportive environment.
Q	Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluate the necessity, length, and frequency of the meeting, including separate optional versus attendee lists. Utilize more appropriate forms of communication to provide updates instead of holding meetings.
D	Deadlines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designate an individual to record meeting minutes including assigned tasks and associated deadlines. Review the assigned tasks and associated deadlines to ensure agreement. Distribute minutes to the group within an appropriate time frame.

References

- Jay A. "How To Run a Meeting." HBR. March 1973. Boston: Harvard Business School Publishing. <https://hbr.org/1976/03/how-to-run-a-meeting>. Accessed September 2019
- Hartman N. "Seven Steps to Running the Most Effective Meeting Possible." Forbes Leadership Forum. February 2014. <https://www.forbes.com/sites/forbesleadershipforum/2014/02/05/seven-steps-to-running-the-most-effective-meeting-possible/#5561ed07a613>. Accessed September 2019.