

UNIT ONE: OVERVIEW

Binder Overview

Maintaining an AVID binder is a central requirement for students in the AVID elective class, as it has a direct impact on student success in all classes and accounts for the majority of the AVID elective class grade. The ideal binder size is two or three inches so that all student work for each class can be stored in one single binder. If students are working on a block schedule, they may opt to keep one binder for their odd-numbered classes and one binder for their even-numbered classes, so they don't have to cart around materials for classes that they do not have on a given day.

Included in this section are a list of suggested binder contents, general binder requirements by grade level, and a variety of binder grade sheets. Ideally, the AVID student binders should be graded weekly by AVID tutors and the AVID teacher. For additional information, please review the Binder unit in *AVID Strategies for Success*.

Binder Contents

Needed Binder Contents

- Good quality, 3-ring binder, 2" or 3" rings with pocket inserts
- Five to six colored dividers with tabs to separate each academic class including AVID
- Zipper pouch to store supplies (3-hole punched heavy duty zip-lock bags also work)
- Two or more pens
- Two or more sharpened pencils
- Filler paper (some notebook paper is now available in Cornell note style)
- Assignment calendar for each academic class
- Tutorial logs
- Learning logs
- Cornell note paper
- Erasers
- Highlighters

Suggested Binder Contents

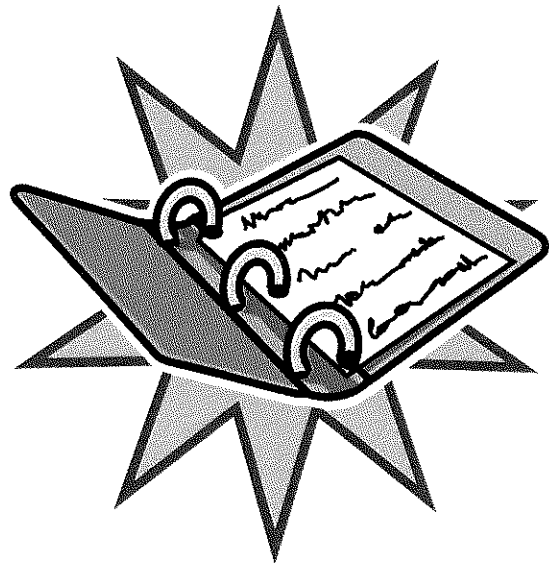
- One or two trapper pouches (for paper without holes)
- One or more colored highlighter pens
- Notebook dictionary and/or thesaurus
- Calculator
- Six-inch ruler
- Tips on note-taking and test-taking skills, tutorial guidelines, and other AVID strategy sheets
- Sample of note-taking in specific subjects

Student binder should be organized in the following manner:

1. Plastic supply holder
2. Binder grading sheet

Each subsequent section in the binder should have these parts in this order:

- A. Divider (labeled by subject name)
- B. Calendar/assignment log
- C. Current Cornell notes
- D. Learning logs
- E. Handouts
- F. Tests
- G. Older notes and learning logs
- H. Blank paper



Suggested General Binder Requirements

6th/7th Grade

- Two-three pages of notes per week for each academic class (*weekly total: 8–12 pages*).
- Agenda/calendar completed each day with daily classwork and homework assignments recorded for all classes (*parent signature may be required*).
- Handouts and returned work/tests in appropriate sections.
- Minimum supplies include pencils, pens, and extra paper.
- Binder checked weekly.

8th Grade

- One page of notes or a learning log per day for each academic class (*weekly total: 20 pages*).
- Agenda/calendar completed each day with daily assignments recorded for all classes, plus extracurricular activities (*different colors of highlighters or pens may be used to differentiate between assignments and tests*).
- Handouts and returned work /tests are in appropriate sections.
- Minimum supplies include pencils, pens, highlighters, colored pencils, ruler, and extra paper.
- Binder checked weekly.

9th/10th Grade

- One page of notes or a learning log per day for each academic class (*weekly total: 20 pages*).
- Agenda/calendar completed each day with daily assignments recorded for all classes plus extracurricular activities, chores and/or home responsibilities (*effective use of different colors of highlighters required*).
- Weekly and/or monthly goals may be included in agenda.
- Handouts and returned work/tests are in appropriate sections.
- Minimum supplies include pencils, pens, highlighters, colored pencils, ruler, calculator, and extra paper.
- Binder checked weekly.

11th/12th Grade

- Two pages of notes and/or learning logs per academic class every day (*weekly total: 40 pages*).
- Agenda/calendar completed for every class plus extracurricular activities, chores and/or home responsibilities, part-time job, community service, AP study group times, etc. (*effective use of different colors of highlighters required*).
- All college tests and application deadlines must be recorded in agenda/calendar.
- Handouts and returned work/tests are in appropriate sections.
- Minimum supplies include pencils, pens, highlighters, colored pencils, ruler, calculator, dictionary/thesaurus, and extra paper.
- Binder checked every two weeks for 11th graders and monthly or at random for 12th graders.
- 11th and 12th graders may be paired up with freshman and serve as binder mentors if necessary.