

ASVAB Cheat Sheet 2026

The night-before summary, built like the exam.

— Scored questions	— Time limit	No pass/fail — AFQT per... Passing score
— Exam fee	US Department of Defen... Governing body	— Pass rate

Scoring in one box

- AFQT = AR + MK + PC + WK standard scores -> percentile 1-99 vs national 18-23 sample
- Categories: I 93-99 · II 65-92 · IIIA 50-64 · IIIB 31-49 · IV 10-30 · V 1-9 — each branch sets its own minimum
- Technical subtests (GS/EI/Al/SI/MC/AO) feed job line scores, not the AFQT
- Standard scores: ~half the population ≥ 50 , ~16% ≥ 60

CAT-ASVAB mechanics

- Adaptive: right answer -> harder item · wrong -> easier · no going back
- Scored questions/time (no tryouts): GS 15/12 · AR 15/55 · WK 15/9 · PC 10/27 · MK 15/31 · EI 15/10 · AI 10/7 · SI 10/6 · MC 15/22 · AO 15/18
- Run out of time -> unfinished items scored as random guesses (penalty); limits are liberal, keep moving
- Paper version: AI+SI merge into AS, no AO — only a handful of MET sites still use it

Math anchors

- $D = R \times T$ (and both rearrangements) · better buy = unit price, never total
- % increase = $\text{change} \div \text{original}$ · simple interest = $P \times r \times t$
- Ratio a:b of a total -> divide by a+b parts first · crew jobs conserve worker-hours (inverse!)
- Fencing = perimeter · paint/sod = area · boxes = $l \times w \times h$ volume
- Supplementary 180° (straight) · complementary 90° (corner) · distribute EVERY term in parentheses
- Strict inequality excludes the boundary — test the planted boundary choice

Verbal anchors

- WK: substitute each choice into the sentence · beware the planted antonym
- Roots: rect=straight · cis=cut · im-/in-=not · spec=look · port=carry
- PC: the answer is IN the passage — real-world-true but text-absent = trap · most modest inference wins
- 9 minutes for 15 WK items — instinct, don't deliberate

Science & technical anchors

- Water: 32°F melts / 212°F boils · sound speed: solids > liquids > gases > nothing in vacuum
- Photosynthesis stores energy; respiration releases it · arteries = away from heart (direction, not oxygen)
- Ohm's law triangle: $V = I \times R$ · ohms=resistance, volts=pressure, amps=flow, watts=power
- Series: same current, voltage divides · parallel: same voltage, current divides · fuse/breaker = overcurrent protection
- Four-stroke: intake -> compression -> power -> exhaust · alternator charges, battery starts
- $MA = \text{load} \div \text{effort}$ · meshed gears counter-rotate, speed $1/\text{teeth}$ · fixed pulley redirects, movable multiplies · Pascal: confined fluid transmits pressure equally

Logistics

- 65 MEPS + MET sites · valid ID required · late = turned away
- Retest clock: 1 month -> 1 month -> 6 months · AFQT +20 in 6 months -> mandatory C-Test
- Peak once: build the study plan around the attempt that counts

Official sources

- US Department of Defense (ASVAB Program) — Understanding ASVAB Scores — Official ASVAB:
<https://www.officialasvab.com/applicants/scores/>
- US Department of Defense (ASVAB Program) — The CAT-ASVAB — Official ASVAB:
<https://www.officialasvab.com/applicants/cat-asvab/>
- US Department of Defense (ASVAB Program) — What to Expect When You Take the ASVAB — Official ASVAB:
<https://www.officialasvab.com/applicants/what-to-expect/>

Free practice questions for this exam: www.everyexamprep.com/practice/exams/military/asvab