

# How to Make a KIM Chart

- 0:00 **Owl:** Welcome to How to make a KIM Chart, an instructional video on reading comprehension brought to you by the Excelsior College Online Writing Lab.
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- 0:11 One way to improve your vocabulary is to create a KIM chart for the new words you encounter.
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- 0:17 This will help you improve your reading comprehension and keep track of new terms.
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- 0:22 “KIM” is an acronym that stands for:
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- 0:25 Key Word,
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- 0:26 Information,
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- 0:27 and Memory Cue.
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- 0:29 A KIM chart has a column for each of these categories and rows for each new word.
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- 0:35 To make a KIM Chart, take a sheet of paper and draw three columns.
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- 0:39 At the top of the first column write “Key Word.”
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- 0:43 At the top of the second column write “Information.”
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- 0:47 Beneath that write “Definition of the Word” in parentheses.
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- 0:51 At the top of the third column write “Memory Cue.”
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- 0:56 Beneath that write “sentence or picture” in parentheses.
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- 1:00 Then draw a bunch of lines from left to right to indicate rows.
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- 1:05 In the first row, write a key word in the first column.
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- 1:09 For instance, let’s write “prevaricate.”
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- 1:13 Now, in the second column write the following definition:
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- 1:17 to speak or act in an evasive way
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- 1:21 Finally, in the third column practice using the new word in a sentence.
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- 1:25 Here’s one:
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- 1:26 The diplomat was a master of prevarication; he never said what he meant, and he hardly meant what he said.
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- 1:34 Make the chart as long as you need it by adding additional pages to list all of the new words you encounter.
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- 1:39 That’s it!
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- 1:41 With a KIM Chart in your notebook, you’ll be ready to look up and add new words any time the need arises!
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- 1:47 Click here for a KIM Chart template that you can download and take with you.
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- 1:52 Thanks for listening to this instructional video on How to Make a KIM Chart!
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- 1:57 Visit the Excelsior College Online Writing Lab for more support with reading and writing skills.