

Confidence Ranking



What is it and why do I care?

Preparing for tests can be overwhelming and can really mess with your self-confidence. Are you studying enough, are you studying too much, are you studying the right things? Using a confidence ranking is a quick and easy way to identify strong and weak spots in your knowledge and to gauge your confidence about what you do and do not know. You're learning so much at such an accelerated pace that you often don't ACTUALLY know how much you know.

Confidence ranking also helps you identify those areas that are consistently a struggle for you. Knowing your weak areas will be especially critical during your preparation for NCLEX.

How to rank

While doing review questions (an excellent form of [Active Recall](#)), quickly rank each question on a confidence scale with low, medium, and high (this should be a super quick gut check). When reviewing the results after completing the questions, consult your rating list and compare your confidence level to your actual results.

The rankings and how to use them:

- High confidence – Correct answer: no review required, you got this
- High confidence – Incorrect answer: review the question closely to find the disconnect (did you misread the information or do you really not understand it), do more targeted review if needed
- Low confidence – Correct answer: was this just a good guess or do you need to recalibrate your internal read to the fact you know more on this topic than you thought
- Low confidence – Incorrect answer: review question, if happening on multiple questions in the same topic, do a deeper review
- Medium confidence – Correct or Incorrect answer: review the question, but likely is just a little piece of information you didn't know or didn't feel confident about