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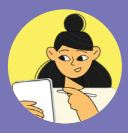
Student Orientation: What is Sharpen?

Welcome to Sharpen, McGraw Hill's mobile exam prep app. Feeling overwhelmed and constantly looking for more study materials? Sharpen has what you need: study tools for your course in short, engaging formats that help you learn efficiently and effectively.



Sharpen delivers a solution:

The Sharpen app is included in your course as your own personal study buddy. Sharpen has hundreds of study tools in digestible formats so you can master tough concepts in just 5 minutes. The app delivers personalized study tips based on your in-app performance, so you can see what you know and what you need to review.



Hundreds of bite-sized study activities



Aligned with your course materials



Integrated with your McGraw Hill study platforms for easy access



AI from McGraw Hill sources you can trust

Use the app anywhere

You can use Sharpen's web app or mobile app to study at home or on-the-go. Since Sharpen is made by McGraw Hill, you can trust its content: accurate, focused on the most important concepts, and won't give you the wrong answers.

GET IT ON Google Play | Download on the App Store



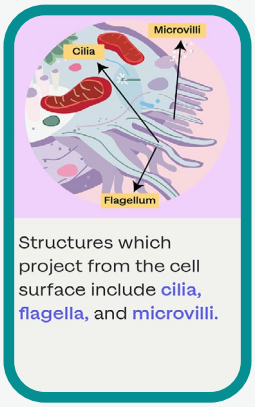
What do you get with Sharpen?

Sharpen has customized content in 5 key formats that let you choose how you want to study.



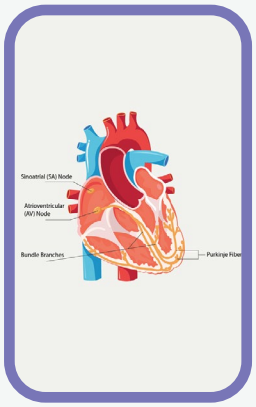
3-5 Minute Concept Videos

Videos deep-dive into individual concepts. You can change the video speed and turn the transcript on and off.



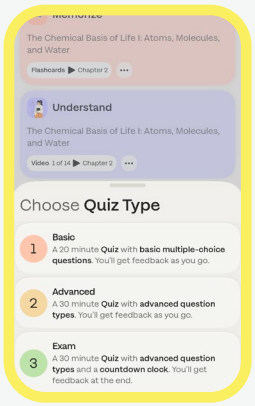
Visual Chapter Summaries

Summaries give brief chapter overviews with visuals and text you can play out loud.



Hundreds of Flashcards

Flashcards help you tackle terminology. You can tap to see definitions, swipe right to move forward, or click “remind me” to review terms again later.



Robust Quiz Bank

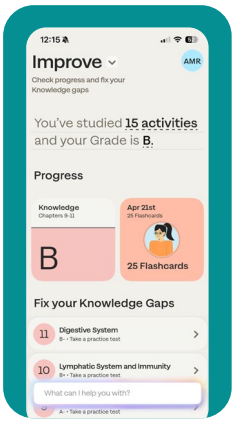
Quiz Bank is Sharpen’s test prep feature. As you complete quizzes you earn awards, see your scores, and get study tips to improve.



Step-by-Step Guided Solutions

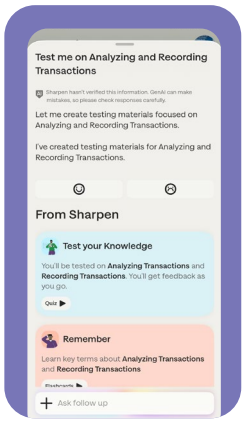
Guided Solutions offer practice calculations with detailed explanations. This feature is available in select quantitative courses.

As you complete activities, you can use Sharpen’s AI tools to track your progress and break down tough concepts in ways that work for you.



Improve

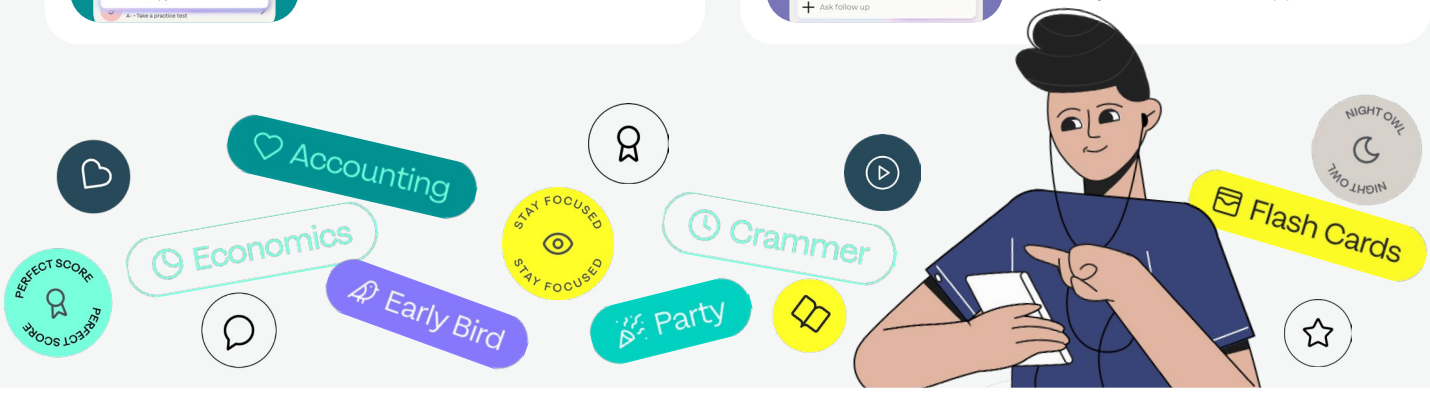
Improve is Sharpen’s AI engine. As you complete activities, Improve analyzes your progress and recommends study activities to tackle your knowledge gaps. Improve also shows your strenghs and badges for completed activities.



Ask Sharpen

Ask Sharpen is your AI study buddy! You prompt Ask Sharpen and it finds or generates concise explanations and study activities. Ask Sharpen prioritizes returns based on your Sharpen scores and knowledge gaps.

You can open Ask Sharpen from your Playlist or by tapping this icon wherever you see it in the app.

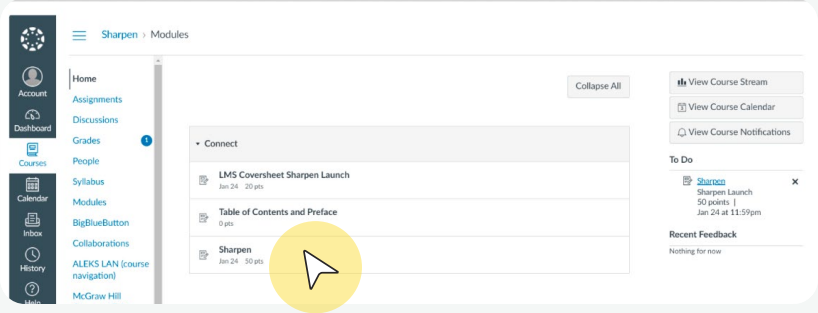


How to Access Sharpen from McGraw Hill Connect®

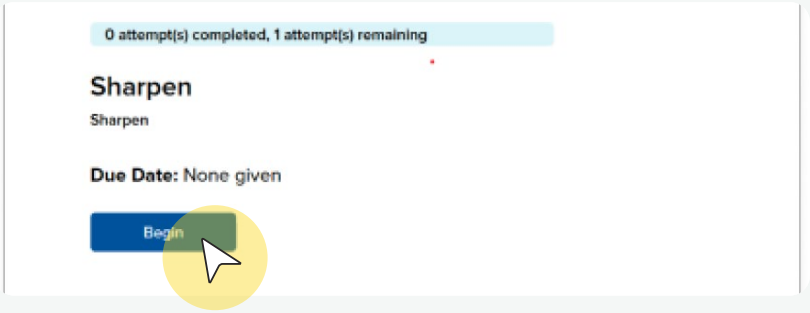
Once you have registered for Connect and Sharpen, you can get started.

Using Connect with a Learning Management System (LMS)?

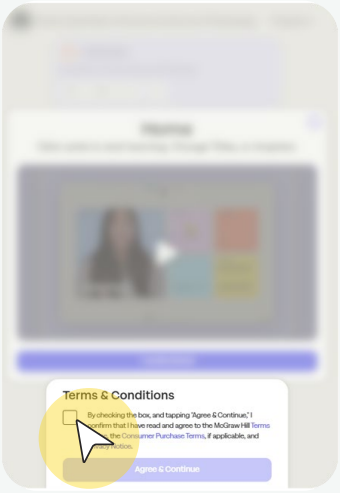
1. If your instructor has published the Sharpen assignment to the LMS, you'll be able to open Sharpen from your assignment list as well.



2. Click **Begin** to open Sharpen in a new web tab.



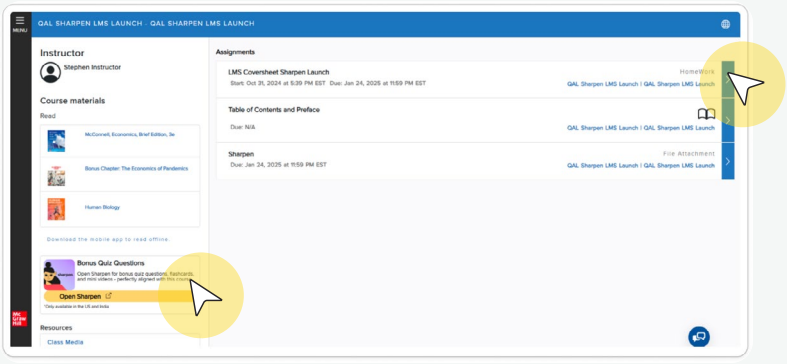
3. When Sharpen launches in a new window, you'll be logged in and prompted to accept the Terms and Conditions. Click to accept and you'll be taken to your title. From here, you can pick your first study activity and get started!



Using Connect without a Learning Management System (LMS)?

The Sharpen launch point is in the bottom left-hand navigation section.

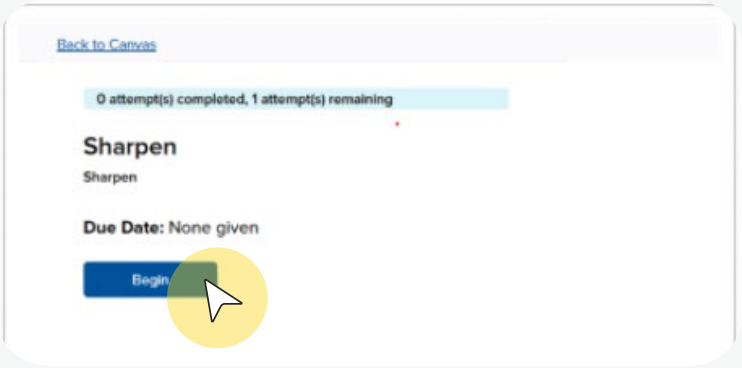
1. Click on the Sharpen widget in the left-side navigation to launch the Sharpen app in a new window. You'll be logged in automatically and can start studying!



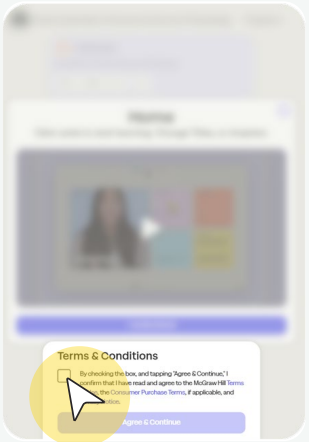
2. If your professor has created a Sharpen assignment for your class, you will see another Sharpen launch point under Assignments.

   Click on the Sharpen assignment to open a new page with the Sharpen access point. Click **Begin** to launch Sharpen in a new tab. Be sure pop-ups are enabled.

   To complete your Sharpen assignment and earn the points your instructor has allotted, open Sharpen from this access point and complete at least one activity.



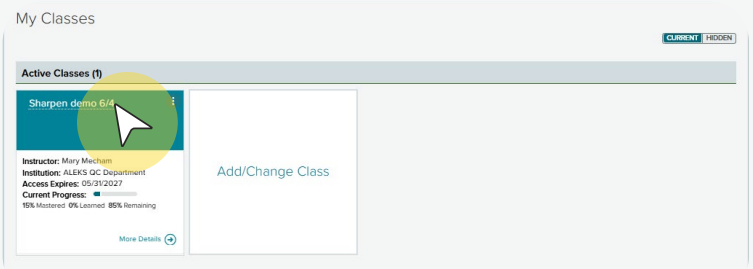
3. When Sharpen launches in a new window, you'll be logged in and prompted to accept the Terms and Conditions. Click to accept and you'll be taken to your title. From here, you can pick your first study activity and get started!



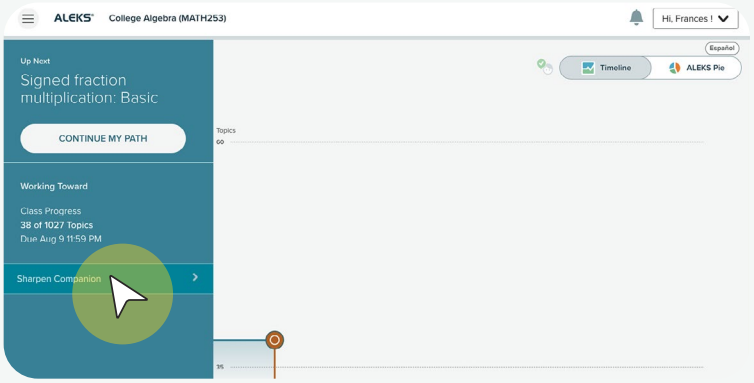
How to Access Sharpen from McGraw Hill ALEKS

Once you have registered for ALEKS and Sharpen, you can get started. Make sure pop-ups are enabled and look for the 3 Sharpen access points in ALEKS. Each access point is within ALEKS, even if you're using an LMS.

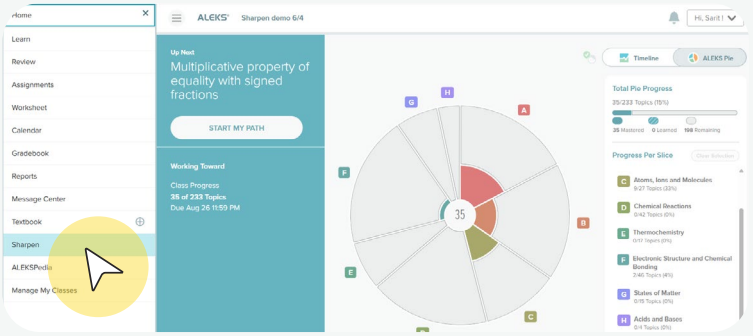
1. Start by opening ALEKS. Under My Classes on the ALEKS home page, click to open your class that includes Sharpen.



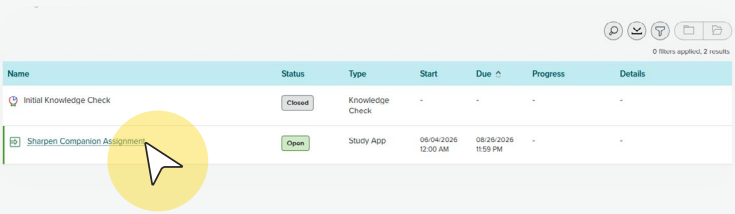
2. In the left navigation of the student homepage, you'll see an option to **Go To Sharpen Companion**. Click and Sharpen will open in a new tab.



You can also open the left-side hamburger menu and scroll down to **Sharpen**.



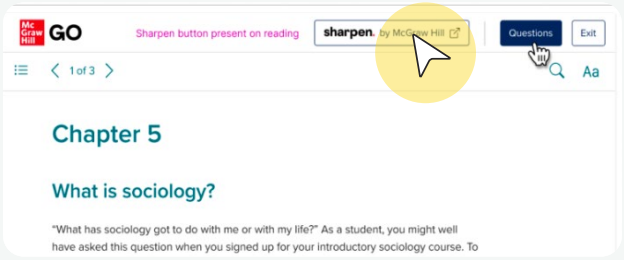
3. Under the assignment list, you'll see the **Sharpen Companion Assignment**. Click this and Sharpen will open in a new tab. **Note:** this is not an actual assignment. There are no points or credits associated with this.



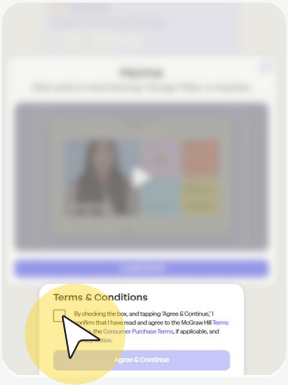
How to Access Sharpen from McGraw Hill GO

Once you have registered for GO and Sharpen, you can get started.

1. You will always see the Sharpen launch point at the top of the reading screen. Click this to launch Sharpen in a new web window.



2. When Sharpen launches in a new window, you'll be logged in and prompted to accept the Terms and Conditions. Click to accept and you'll be taken to your title. From here, you can pick your first study activity and get started!





How to Log Into the Sharpen Mobile App

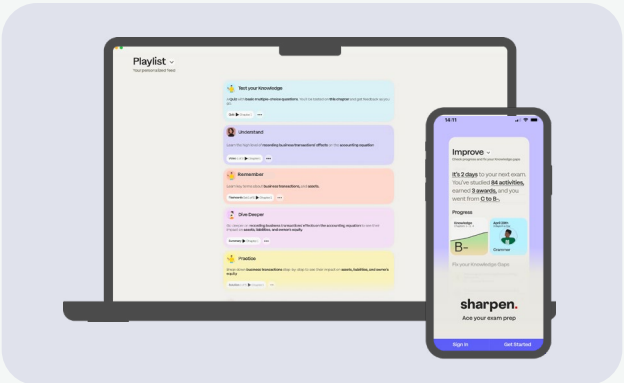
Download the Sharpen mobile phone app to access your study content anytime, anywhere. Always log in with your institution's email address.

iOS

Android

GET IT ON Google Play

Download on the App Store

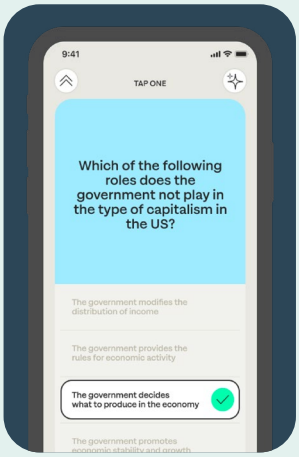


How to Log Into the Sharpen Web App

On your computer or tablet? Log into the Sharpen web app directly at www.studysharpen.com using your Institution's email address.

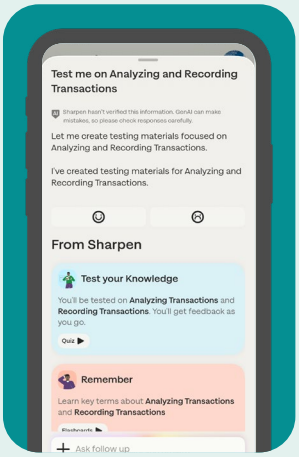
How to Get the Most Out of Sharpen

Here's how your instructors recommend you use Sharpen to make the most of your study time and ace your exams:



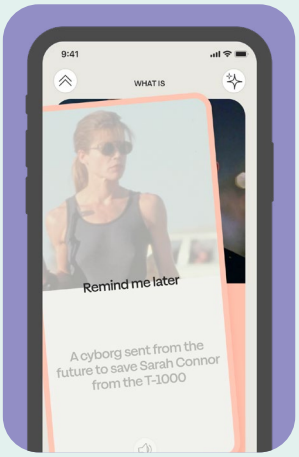
Stressed before the exam?

Spend 10 minutes on **Quiz Bank** to confirm what you know, and check Improve for tips to master concepts you missed.



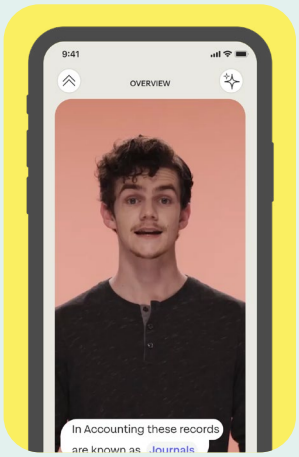
Need help with tough questions?

Prompt **Ask Sharpen** for short explanations and study activities on concepts you still need to master.



Have a weekly study window?

Flip through **flashcards** for 5 minutes to test yourself on chapters you covered in class.



Want a refresher before class?

Spend 5 minutes on **summaries and videos** to review key concepts.

You can access Sharpen however is easiest for you: from Connect, ALEKS, GO, your LMS, or Sharpen's web app or mobile app. Always log in with the email address you use to access McGraw Hill learning platforms to access your personal content. Your study progress will sync across any device you use.

Get Exam-Ready

Students get the best results by using Sharpen for a few minutes each week to review learnings, reinforce key concepts, and prepare for exams. Sharpen sessions are built for real learning in under five minutes. With just one weekly Sharpen study session, you'll be one step closer to exam-ready.

