# Maximizing Workshop Networking

This playbook describes strategies to effectively engage with peers and instructors at educational workshops with the aim of forming valuable, lasting professional connections.

#### Step 1: Preparation

Research the workshop and attendees in advance. Understand the topics being covered, familiarize yourself with the speakers and instructors, and identify attendees you would like to connect with. Prepare questions or topics for discussion related to the workshop's content.

#### Step 2: Participation

Actively participate in the workshop activities. Engage in discussions, ask questions, and contribute your knowledge and experience. Show your enthusiasm for the subject matter.

## Step 3: **Networking Breaks**

Utilize breaks and social events to start conversations with other attendees and instructors. Use open-ended questions to foster dialogue and express genuine interest in their work and opinions.

#### Step 4: Exchange Information

Share contact information with new connections. Offer your business card, connect on professional social networks, or exchange email addresses to facilitate follow-up communication.

## Step 5: Active Listening

Practice active listening during conversations. Give full attention, show that you understand their points, and respond thoughtfully. Remembering details can be useful for later correspondence.

#### Step 6: Follow-Up

After the workshop, reach out to the people you met with personalized messages. Reference specific discussions you had and suggest ways to collaborate or keep in touch in a professional manner.

# **General Notes**

#### **Continued Learning**

Seek opportunities to continue learning. Engage in further educational pursuits that align with the interests of your new connections and can provide additional occasions for interaction.

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