

Stay Connected While Working Remote

For remote workers, staying connected with other team members is essential in maintaining communication and building a sense of camaraderie. While there are pros to working from home, including a flexible work schedule, working remotely can lead to social isolation and communication barriers.

Communicate Often

While it may seem like common sense, communicating often is the best way to stay connected while working from home. Communicating your doubts, questions, concerns, and feedback frequently is an effective way to remain in the loop and be heard.

Communicating your schedule or letting others know when or how they can best get in touch with you is also an effective way to stay connected at your convenience.

Use Communication Apps or Software

Applications like Slack, Skype for Business, Microsoft Teams and Zoom are great ways to “meet” virtually. Many of these platforms have an internal communication system that can make messaging co-workers easy. Whichever software your organization or company permits, these apps can be effective in holding team meetings, starting dialogues or facilitating 1-1 communication.

Bonus tip: to remain social yet “on task” start a thread or chat on ways to optimize productivity while working remotely.

Hold Virtual Coffee Breaks

As a social outlet, some companies stay connected through watercooler chats or coffee breaks. To mimic an in-office experience, hold a virtual coffee break in Slack, Microsoft Teams, or other platforms. Let other employees “stop by” to ask questions or chat about how their day is going. This is an effective way to check in with others and maintain a friendly, positive atmosphere while working remotely.

Schedule Virtual Lunch Breaks or Social Hours

Similar to virtual coffee breaks, virtual lunch dates or social hours can help boost company morale and make the team more comfortable frequently communicating with each other. Schedule a 1-1 lunch date with a team member on the other side of the world, or with your regular in-office lunch buddy.

If the company permits, virtual social hours are also a great way to stay connected. Host competitions, discuss work plans, or hire a wellness instructor to lead a guided class—the options are endless.

Start a Virtual Book Club

Another way to get team members acquainted and connected is to start a virtual book club. Choose an inspirational book to increase work performance, a thriller to intrigue the team, or another genre of your choice. Once you agree upon a book, you can meet bi-weekly or monthly to stay connected with one another and discuss your thoughts.

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