What is the difference between Learning Styles and Multiple Intelligences?

The most important difference is that the multiple intelligences teacher seeks to strengthen a child’s weak intelligence area. The learning styles teacher looks for the student’s favorite way to learn and has the student work in that style or mode.

What do we mean by Learning Styles? Students receive and process information in the learning environment in various ways. Teachers also vary in their methods or styles of teaching. When the learning style of the student is not compatible with the teaching style of the teacher, difficulties in academic achievement can result, as well as behavior problems. Richard Felder is developing a model of learning styles and a parallel model of teaching styles that seems to apply well to students in technical disciplines. (The model was originally formulated in collaboration with Dr. Linda K. Silverman, an educational psychologist.) In the classroom it would not be feasible for the teacher to attempt to teach exclusively to match each student’s unique learning style. However, with an understanding of the different styles of learning, the teacher can plan the environment, lessons/activities and materials to better create a balanced setting to enhance the success of each student.

What are Learning Styles? • Active and Reflective Learners Active learners like to do something active and reflective learners like to think about it first.

• Sensing and Intuitive Learners • Sensing learners like to learn the facts and intuitive learners like to discover possibilities.

• Visual and Verbal Learners • Visual learners remember best what they see and verbal learners remember best what they hear/read.

• Sequential and Global Learners • Sequential learners prefer linear steps and global learners prefer to learn by a larger, more random style.
Discover your Learning Style! This 44-item questionnaire takes about 10 minutes to complete, submit and automatically score on the Web. To begin, go to: [http://www.engr.ncsu.edu/learningstyles/ilsweb.html](http://www.engr.ncsu.edu/learningstyles/ilsweb.html)

How reliable is this questionnaire? To read the peer review of the Index of Learning Style Questionnaire go to: [http://www.merlot.org/artifact/PeerReviewDetail.po?rOid=3000000000000450713](http://www.merlot.org/artifact/PeerReviewDetail.po?rOid=3000000000000450713)

What are some other Learning Style Models?

1. The Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI) • Extraverts • Sensors • Thinkers • Judgers

2. Kolb’s Learning Style Model • Type 1 (Concrete, Reflective) • Type 2 (Abstract, Reflective) • Type 3 (Abstract, Active) • Type 4 (Concrete, Active)

3. Herrmann Brain Dominance Instrument (HBDI) • Quadrant A (Left brain, Cerebral) • Quadrant B (Left brain, Limbic) • Quadrant C (Right brain, Limbic) • Quadrant D (Right brain, Cerebral)

4. Felder-Silverman Learning Style Model • Sensing learners • Visual learners • Inductive learners • Active learners • Sequential learners

To find out more about these learning styles go to: [http://www2.ncsu.edu/unity/lockers/users/f/felder/public/Papers/LS-Prism.htm](http://www2.ncsu.edu/unity/lockers/users/f/felder/public/Papers/LS-Prism.htm)

5. Learning Styles and the 4 MAT System: A Cycle of Learning • Type 1: Innovative Learners • Type 2: Analytic Learners • Type 3: Common Sense Learners • Type 4: Dynamic Learners

To find out more about these learning styles go to: [http://volcano.und.nodak.edu/vwdocs/msh/llc/is/4mat.html](http://volcano.und.nodak.edu/vwdocs/msh/llc/is/4mat.html)

For information about Tactile/Kinesthetic Learning: [http://volcano.und.nodak.edu/vwdocs/msh/llc/is/tkl.html](http://volcano.und.nodak.edu/vwdocs/msh/llc/is/tkl.html)
What do we mean by Multiple Intelligences?

Howard Gardner's theory suggests that our school systems have been teaching two primary kinds of intelligences and neglecting other equally important intelligences. He has proposed that there are at least eight kinds of intelligences and when this theory is applied in the educational setting, there is an increase in successful student achievement.

For more information: [http://www.education-world.com/a_curr/curr054.shtml](http://www.education-world.com/a_curr/curr054.shtml)

Multiple Intelligences: A Theory for Everyone

Howard Gardner's theory of multiple intelligences makes people think about "IQ," about being "smart." The theory is changing the way some teachers teach.

What are the Multiple Intelligences?

- Verbal/Linguistic Intelligence Verbalizing
- Logical/Mathematical Intelligence Conceptualizing
- Visual/Spatial Intelligence Visualizing
- Bodily/Kinesthetic Intelligence Dramatizing
- Musical Intelligence Harmonizing
- Intrapersonal Intelligence Internalizing
- Interpersonal Intelligence Socializing
- Naturalist Intelligence Classifying

Characteristics of Multiple Intelligences can be found at: [http://www.newhorizons.org/art_lrnthrumi.html](http://www.newhorizons.org/art_lrnthrumi.html)

What is your Multiple Intelligence profile?

Take the Multiple Intelligence Inventory to find out! (This is an 80 question survey that will take about 15 minutes to complete, submit and automatically scored on the web. You may need to invent a name by random selection of keys since many common names are already taken.) [http://www.ldrc.ca/projects/miiinventory/miiinventory.php](http://www.ldrc.ca/projects/miiinventory/miiinventory.php)