

Assignment settings by category in Mastering

In Mastering, a *category* is a saved collection of settings that you can apply to an assignment. These settings control aspects of how the assignment is presented to students, how students interact with the assignment, and how the assignment is graded.

Adaptive Follow-Up assignments, which are available in some courses, always belong to the Adaptive category. The Adaptive category can't be applied to other assignments, and it is not discussed in this document.

Three categories are supplied with each new Mastering course: Homework, Quiz, and Test. Each of these categories suits a different purpose, and you will probably find that they cover most of your needs. The images below provide a side-by-side comparison of the default settings for these categories. For a detailed description of each setting, see Mastering Instructor Help.

The images below show tabs in the Default Grading and Presentation Settings window for each default category. To view this window online, open a Mastering course and then click **Gradebook > Manage > Categories and Weighting > Edit Default Settings**. For detailed instructions for *editing these categories*, *creating new categories* with different settings, and *editing settings for a single assignment*, see Mastering Instructor Help.

Basic tab (default settings by category)

The Basic tab shows few, but important, differences among the three categories. Only the Homework category allows students to rework the assignment for practice after the due date, and allows students always to see their assignment score. The Quiz category allows students to see their scores after the assignment is *complete*, but the Test category allows them to do that only after the assignment is *due*.

Homework category	Quiz category	Test category
<div><div>Basic Advanced Security</div><div><div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Allow Rework for Practice Let students rework completed items after the due date. This work will not be saved and will not affect the students' grades.</div><div>Show Assignment Score: Always</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Has a Time Limit Allow minutes for this assignment.</div><div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Penalize Late Submissions <input checked="" type="radio"/> No Credit <input type="radio"/> Reduce credit by % over each hour late.</div></div></div>	<div><div>Basic Advanced Security</div><div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Allow Rework for Practice Let students rework completed items after the due date. This work will not be saved and will not affect the students' grades.</div><div>Show Assignment Score: Only after assignment complete</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Has a Time Limit Allow minutes for this assignment.</div><div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Penalize Late Submissions <input checked="" type="radio"/> No Credit <input type="radio"/> Reduce credit by % over each hour late.</div></div></div>	<div><div>Basic Advanced Security</div><div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Allow Rework for Practice Let students rework completed items after the due date. This work will not be saved and will not affect the students' grades.</div><div>Show Assignment Score: Only after assignment due</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Has a Time Limit Allow minutes for this assignment.</div><div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Penalize Late Submissions <input checked="" type="radio"/> No Credit <input type="radio"/> Reduce credit by % over each hour late.</div></div></div>

Advanced tab (default settings by category)

The Advanced tab shows that the Homework category is the only one that lets students always see correct answers and Hints, and lets them use more than one attempt to answer correctly. The only difference between the Quiz and Test categories is whether the presentation sequence of items is randomized.

Homework category	Quiz category	Test category
<div><div>Basic Advanced Security</div><div>Default Point Value per Item: <input type="text" value="1"/></div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Randomize Item Sequence</div><div>Show Whether an Answer is Correct: Question-specific feedback and follow-up text only appear when students are shown whether their answer is correct. <input type="text" value="Always"/> </div><div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If students exhaust all attempts or give up, show correct answer immediately.</div><div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Limit number of attempts per question to <input type="text" value="6"/></div><div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deduct credit for incorrectly answering a multiple-choice or true/false question before the last attempt. Deduction per incorrect answer: <input checked="" type="radio"/> 100%/(# of answer options - 1) <input type="radio"/> <input type="text" value="0"/> %</div><div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deduct credit for incorrectly answering any other type of question before the last attempt. Deduction per incorrect answer: <input type="text" value="3"/> %</div><div>Students Can View Hints: <input type="text" value="Always"/> </div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Give credit for correctly answering a question in a Hint.</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Give bonus credit for not opening a Hint. Bonus per Hint not opened: <input type="text" value="2"/> %</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Deduct credit for opening a Hint.</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Deduct credit for exhausting all attempts or giving up on a question in a Hint.</div><div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Require Students to Enter Units by Default Applies only to item content that asks for a value and a unit. ⓘ</div></div>	<div><div>Basic Advanced Security</div><div>Default Point Value per Item: <input type="text" value="1"/></div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Randomize Item Sequence</div><div>Show Whether an Answer is Correct: Question-specific feedback and follow-up text only appear when students are shown whether their answer is correct. <input type="text" value="Only after assignment due"/> </div><div><input type="checkbox"/> If students answer incorrectly, show correct answer after assignment due date.</div><div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Limit number of attempts per question to <input type="text" value="1"/></div><div>Students Can View Hints: <input type="text" value="Never"/> </div><div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Require Students to Enter Units by Default Applies only to item content that asks for a value and a unit. ⓘ</div></div>	<div><div>Basic Advanced Security</div><div>Default Point Value per Item: <input type="text" value="1"/></div><div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Randomize Item Sequence</div><div>Show Whether an Answer is Correct: Question-specific feedback and follow-up text only appear when students are shown whether their answer is correct. <input type="text" value="Only after assignment due"/> </div><div><input type="checkbox"/> If students answer incorrectly, show correct answer after assignment due date.</div><div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Limit number of attempts per question to <input type="text" value="1"/></div><div>Students Can View Hints: <input type="text" value="Never"/> </div><div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Require Students to Enter Units by Default Applies only to item content that asks for a value and a unit. ⓘ</div></div>

Security tab (default settings by category)

The Security tab shows that only the Homework category lets students print their assignments. Only the Test category hides item titles (which might give clues to correct answers), and prevents students from viewing test content again after they have completed the assignment, until the due date has passed.

Homework category	Quiz category	Test category
<div><div>BasicAdvancedSecurity</div><div><div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Allow Students to Print</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Hide Item Titles Replace titles with <input type="text" value="Item"/> and a number showing the item's position in the assignment, such as "Item 1".</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Limit Student Access Do not allow students to access assignment content between completion and due date.</div></div></div>	<div><div>BasicAdvancedSecurity</div><div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Allow Students to Print</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Hide Item Titles Replace titles with <input type="text" value="Item"/> and a number showing the item's position in the assignment, such as "Item 1".</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Limit Student Access Do not allow students to access assignment content between completion and due date.</div></div></div>	<div><div>BasicAdvancedSecurity</div><div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Allow Students to Print</div><div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hide Item Titles Replace titles with <input type="text" value="Item"/> and a number showing the item's position in the assignment, such as "Item 1".</div><div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Limit Student Access Do not allow students to access assignment content between completion and due date.</div></div></div>

Security tab (additional setting for a specific assignment)

The images above show settings that can be saved with a *category* and applied to an unlimited number of assignments. In addition, the **Require Password** option is available on the Security tab when you edit settings for a *specific assignment*. Requiring a password is useful for assignments that students complete in a testing center or other proctored environment.

BasicAdvancedSecurity

☐ Allow Students to Print

☐ Hide Item Titles
Replace titles with and a number showing the item's position in the assignment, such as "Item 1".

☐ Require Password

☐ Limit Student Access
Do not allow students to access assignment content between completion and due date.

This option appears only in the Assignment Grading and Presentation Settings window. To view this window online, display the Overview page for the assignment for which you want to require a password, and then click **Edit Grading and Presentation Settings**. For detailed instructions, see Mastering Instructor Help.