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The 8% Rule

A quick guide to this simple rule for making meetings more interactive and engaging.



What is the 8% rule?

The 8% Rule states that you should dedicate 8% of the time in any work meeting to making personal connections. The purpose of this rule is to consistently sustain peer-to-peer social connections that boost business outcomes.



What is 8% of my meeting?

8% of a one hour meeting is about 5 minutes, so you can adjust accordingly.

Benefits of the 8% rule

- 1. Promotes connectivity in in-person and remote workplaces.
- 2. Encourages consistent application of best practices for employee engagement.
- 3. Helps develop meaningful relationships at work, which improves job satisfaction and retention.
- 4. Easy to follow and apply, with just five minutes for every hour spent in meetings.
- 5. Speeds up meetings by specifying time allocated to small chat & social activities.
- 6. Makes work meetings fun.



8% rule activity examples

- 1. Ask an icebreaker question at the start of a meeting.
- 2. Have participants change their virtual backgrounds to a personal photo and tell an accompanying story.
- 3. Share teammates' childhood photos onscreen and try to guess "who da baby".
- 4. Tell teamamtes to show you their pets! (Or babies! Or plant babies!)
- 5. Do a lightning scavenger hunt and ask participants to grab an object like "show me something you use every day!"



