

MEETING MINUTE CHECKLIST

Know the purpose
o They are an historical record of a group's decisions and actions
o They are a reminder of who was given assignments
o They are evidence of deadlines
o They are a benefit for people who are absent when decisions are made
Learn to focus on major issues, actions, and decisions. Avoid irrelevant comments that have nothing to do with the discussion by the group.
Just the facts. By contrast, opinions are personal views that are subjective and easily disputed by others.
When one party commits to completing an item, make sure the deadline for that item is finalized and entered in the minutes.
Edit to ensure brevity and clarity, so the minutes are easy to read.
Be objective.
Write in the same tense throughout
Avoid using people's names, but rather the party they represent. This is a business document, not about who said what.
Avoid inflammatory or personal observations. The fewer adjectives or adverbs you use, the better
Proofread and spell check everything. These are a reflection on you, take pride in them. "What's worth doing is worth doing well."
Allow time for your PM to review the minutes to make sure you both are on the same page.
Enter and distribute the minutes within 72 hours of the meeting occurrence. This also gives time to the attendees to review the minutes and be reminded of their action items.

