

# Meeting Discussion Topics

You don't always need to prepare discussion questions to have a productive and meaningful meeting, but if it starts feeling repetitive or folks stop showing up, hosting a prepared and specific community discussion can work wonders.

**Here are some tips to help you prepare! This can be done alone, or in a small group.**

1. Choose a prompt or discussion topic that you have a personal investment in. It should be broad enough that anyone in your group can find a way to relate to, yet still specific enough to direct a conversation. Don't worry about being too broad—you'll prepare specific follow-up sub-questions to driver the conversation deeper.  
(Example: Navigating Beauty Standards and Queerness)
2. Take a while to think about as many different possible ways people might connect to your chosen topic. What concepts, ideas, or systems of power are related to your topic? Write down anything that comes to mind.  
(Example: How are queer beauty standards different or the same as cisgender and heterosexual standards? How do we, or do not, aesthetically signal our queerness? How do our other identities affect our relationships to beauty and queerness?)
3. Craft at least 10 specific sub-questions per hour of meeting time. So for example, if your community discussion is supposed to run for an hour and a half, prepare at least 15 questions.
4. Frame your discussion. Why is it important? Why is it important to talk about now? Why did you choose this discussion topic?
5. Show vulnerability before asking for vulnerability. When you frame and introduce the topic, consider including a personal anecdote or at least something about how you relate to the topic. After all, you're asking for other people to open up on a topic that you specifically chose.
6. Set clear ground rules for the conversation and ask for group feedback before beginning the conversation.  
(Example: Only speak to your personal experience and use "I" statements.)