

# Teaching for Excellence™ Getting Started Tips

1. Identify those ideas you wish to implement, the benefit you expect, and the resources you may need, if any
2. Sort your list into those “done on your feet” and those done “behind the scenes.” Because of the way people function with habits and the way our brains process, we can implement or change only one thing at a time that is done “on our feet’ and multiple things that do not require simultaneous brain function. For example, I can develop lesson plans a different way and develop assessments differently for the same unit because my brain does not work on these simultaneously. However, I will struggle changing how I give directions, for an activity I’ve never done before and especially if it is with content I haven’t taught before.
3. Identify the “why.” We will tend to stay on things if we value the benefit they can bring enough
4. Identify the resources you may need for implementation, if any
5. Determine the prioritized order of implementation
6. Refer to Chapter 17, “Where to Start,” in your copy of *Teaching for Excellence™* for critical lessons learned and additional tips
7. Remember, think big, start small, but start, build success and keep going
8. Proceed with implementation, continuously making sure you are adhering to the critical attributes

CAUTION – Get new ideas in place first with your easiest students to work with and with your easiest content or class to teach! Get the bugs out where it is easiest to succeed before tackling your most challenging situations.

Priority	“On My Feet” Ideas	Desired Benefit	Resources Needed	Priority	“Behind the Scenes” Ideas	Desired Benefit	Resources Needed