Self-Directed Learning — Cheat Sheet

Bonus one-pager for uniquestoremarket.com's “Self-Directed Learning” guide

The five steps (Knowles)

1. **Diagnose** — figure out what's actually missing — not just the topic, the specific gap.
2. **Formulate goals** — turn the gap into something specific enough to know when it's closed.
3. **Identify resources** — find what will actually help, not whatever appears first in a search.
4. **Choose & implement a strategy** — pick a method that fits the goal, and follow it through.
5. **Evaluate the outcome** — judge, using some kind of test, whether it worked.

Before you start this week

- Rate 3-5 sub-skills inside your topic honestly, 0-2, before any studying (Ch. 2) — the lowest score is your real gap, not the topic itself.
- Turn that gap into 5-9 milestones, each with its own outcome and time estimate (Ch. 3).
- Test yourself, don't just re-read: restate from memory, spot the wrong statement, find the edge case (Ch. 4).
- Put the next session on your actual calendar and keep your checklists visible (Ch. 5).

Full guide: uniquestoremarket.com/self-directed-learning