

# Bulletin “Bored” to Bulletin Board!

Getting info out via a bulletin board, whether it’s to the entire campus community or to your organization, doesn’t have to be a big production. Here are some tricks of the trade to make the process less painful and much more enjoyable!

## Top 10 Ways to Make Your Bulletin Board Interesting to Look At

- 10. Take suggestions.** Why not ask group members what they would like more information on? You could also ask them what makes them stop to read a bulletin board. Then, plan yours accordingly.
- 9. Use an appropriate size and type of font.** Get creative, but make sure it’s readable. You can download thousands of cool fonts for free...pick some thematic fonts and print out your headlines really big. You can even print out the texty part of your bulletin board—just don’t do so in 12-point font.
- 8. Include an interactive component.** An interactive board is always more likely to draw people in. Post questions that flip up to reveal the answers underneath. Or, put freebies in an envelope. You can even include a comments area, where they can share their thoughts on the topic presented.
- 7. Use bright colors or something flashy.** Use bright colored paper in the background or as your border. Or, use a bright color font. The brighter the better! Put together cool combinations. In the advertising world, using three or four colors is considered a top strategy in making a product visually appealing. Don’t forget things like glitter or sequins too!
- 6. Check your spelling and grammar.** There’s nothing worse than a board that attracts attention for mistakes rather than content. Proof your headlines, printouts, and anything else you include. Ask a peer to be your proofreader!
- 5. Stay focused.** Narrow in on the message you really want to convey, so that you don’t get too broad. If you share too much, people might not stop to read it—or they might miss the message you really want to share.

## Cool Bulletin Board Borders!

Try some of these borders to make your board POP!

- ▲ cotton balls or Q-tips around the edges of an all-black background
- ▲ strips of crinkled tin foil—it’ll shimmer in the light
- ▲ black triangles in the corners to make it look like photo corners
- ▲ colorful thumb tacks
- ▲ staple bag ties (in the middle) around the edges and then attach anything to them, from buttons to little figurines
- ▲ multi-colored straws
- ▲ chains of paperclips linked together and draped from pushpins around the edges
- ▲ stickers of favorite cartoon characters
- ▲ fake ivy vine from a craft store (makes it look very vineyard-like!)
- ▲ strips from colorful magazine ads or covers
- ▲ business cards you’ve collected from faculty and staff across campus (informational AND decorative!)
- ▲ a light-colored strip of paper with holes punched out of it placed on a dark board for a cool contrast
- ▲ small twigs from outside (it’ll look woody!)
- ▲ long shoelaces (could be good for an athletic-oriented board!)
- ▲ plastic spoons and forks (to frame food facts!)
- ▲ puzzle pieces from a garage sale puzzle, stuck in random patterns around the edges

- 4. Keep it short and simple.** Don’t go overboard with the amount of information you provide. A little bit goes a long way.
- 3. Include a box or section with additional resources.** Back to keeping things short and sim-