SQ3R: survey, question, read, recall, review

Keep bibliographic records:
author, title, date of publication, place of publication, publisher, page numbers

Survey: What is your text?
Title, front and back cover information, contents, and index – or abstract
Introduction or preface – what is this text about?
Check ‘topic sentences’ – the first line of each paragraph
Headings, diagrams, graphs and conclusions

Question:
Is it relevant?
What exactly do I want to learn / what level of detail do I need?
Am I ready for this text – or would reading a more basic overview first help me understand the topic more?

Read:
Active reading
Break material into small chunks

Recall:
Close the text and try and note down what the key points were
Think about the questions you had in mind for reading the text
Re-read
Identify key phrases
Use colour-coding
Apply critical thinking skills

Review:
Did you answer your question?
What are the key points?
Are your notes clear?
Can you summarise this text without looking back at it?
Discuss it with others

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