

COVID-19

4 WAYS TO CONNECT YOUR VIRTUAL TEAMS

Bringing your team together and developing a bond between them is harder in a virtual world, but there are still plenty of ways to do it.

1. Play a virtual team game

Office quizzes have been popular during lockdown, as they're a simple, fun way to engage (a different team member is quizmaster each week), but you can also do scavenger hunts whereby one colleague calls out a household item and the first person to retrieve it and show to the video conference wins. Another idea is virtual bingo, plenty of platforms offer group options, including this from [Happify](#).

2. Bring 'home life' to work

Help your team engage with what's happening in each other's lives by asking them to bring their co-workers in their home office to a meeting – a pet, child or partner! Also, make a point of encouraging them to discuss their weekends with the group and share their workspace, all things to spark conversation. Another idea for 1:1s is to turn them into walking meetings, so it doubles as a screen break.

3. Take a break

Meeting-free Fridays, virtual team coffees or lunch breaks – even having a team managing to block out one lunchtime a week to ensure everyone stops work for an hour. Make opportunities for people to stop, and talk about things beyond the daily workload.

4. Change the conversation

Break the routine of your meeting/conversation starter, instead of 'how are you?' try something more positive, such as: what's the best thing to happen to you today? What is your favourite song, guilty pleasure TV show or comfort food? Ask about things they've realised they don't need or how their experience has changed them in a positive manner. In short, find ways to help them see positivity in this complex situation.

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Together, all the way.®



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