

How to survive a shark attack – creating an advice sheet

Cut out the 15 instruction cards below. Put them into order and then design the layout of an advice sheet. You can add illustrations, bullet points, numbers, etc, as you see fit.

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| Don't panic or make jerky, sudden movements. | Keep your eyes open for sharks. Don't be the victim of a surprise attack. |
| After the attack, get out of the water as soon as possible if you can. Never assume that the shark will not return. | Hitting a shark will sometimes make it retreat and hesitate. |
| Choose carefully where you swim. Sharks lurk in deep in-shore water where their prey tends to enter the water. | Unless you are very close to the shore, do not try to 'swim for it'. Sharks are fast. |
| Of course sharks can be deadly, and if you swim in areas where sharks are present, you need to be prepared. | Look out for jumping fish. They may be trying to escape a shark. |
| If you decide to swim to the shore, then swim calmly – preferably using breast-stroke. Splashing will spread blood from any wound and will attract more sharks. | Move slowly away from the shark, keeping it in view if possible. |
| If there is no solid object to back up against, try to stand (or tread water) back-to-back with another swimmer. | If you cannot get out of the water then remain still and call out for help. |
| Sharks are faddy eaters and humans are not their preferred diet. That is probably why shark attacks are very rare. When sharks do attack humans, curiosity might be the cause: they bite us experimentally, just to find out more about us! | <p>If possible, get something solid behind you: a large rock, for example. That will protect your back.</p> <p>If a shark does attack, then face it and try to hit it in the eyes. If possible, use a hard object such as an oar or helmet.</p> |