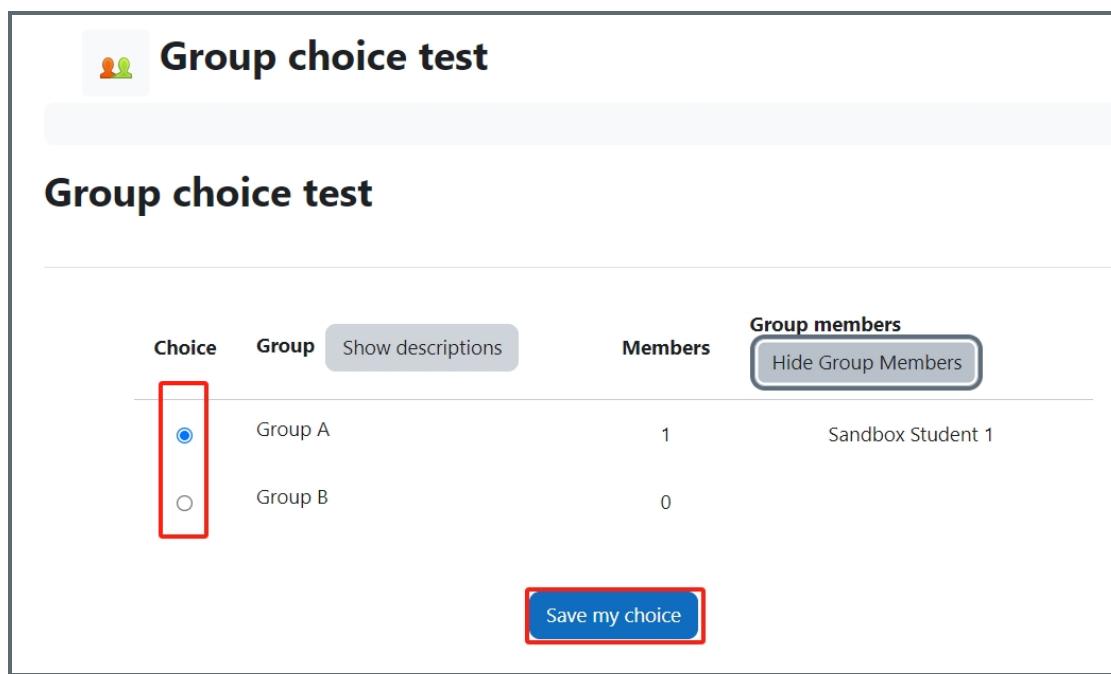


How to let your students choose their own groups

161 Na Li Tue, Dec 12, 2023 Group Choice, Groups and Groupings

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The screenshot shows a 'Group choice test' interface. At the top, there are tabs for 'Choice' (highlighted with a red box), 'Group', and 'Show descriptions'. Below these are two options: 'Group A' with a checked radio button and 'Group B' with an unchecked radio button. To the right, there is a 'Members' column showing '1' for Group A and '0' for Group B, with 'Sandbox Student 1' listed as a member. At the bottom right is a blue 'Save my choice' button.

An example of students choose their own group

Overview:

This guide will show you how to set up the group choice activity and allow your students to choose their own group for group activities.

What to know:

In order to use the group choice, please create empty groups or grouping with empty groups first. You can check these user guides for how to create empty groups:

[How to create groups automatically](#)

[How to import groups](#)

[Create groups and grouping](#)

Table of Contents

[Step 1: Create empty groups or grouping with empty groups](#)

[Step 2: Turn on editing mode in your module area/course](#)

[Step 3: Click 'Add an activity or resource' link](#)

[Step 4: Choose the Group choice activity](#)

[Step 5: Add name and description](#)

[Step 6: Miscellaneous settings](#)

[Step 7: Select the available groups for select](#)

[Step 8: Restrict answering to this time period](#)

[Step 9: How does it work?](#)

[Step 10: How to download the group list?](#)

[Step 1: Create empty groups or grouping with empty groups](#)

You can check these user guides for how to create empty groups:

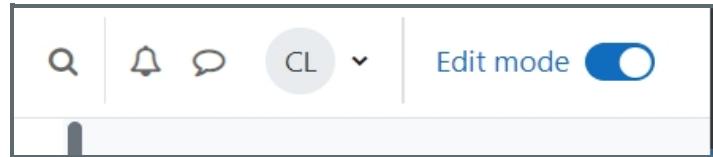
[How to create groups automatically](#)

[How to import groups](#)

[Create groups and grouping](#)

Step 2: Turn on editing mode in your module area/course

Click the 'Edit mode' button displayed near the upper right of the module area/course.



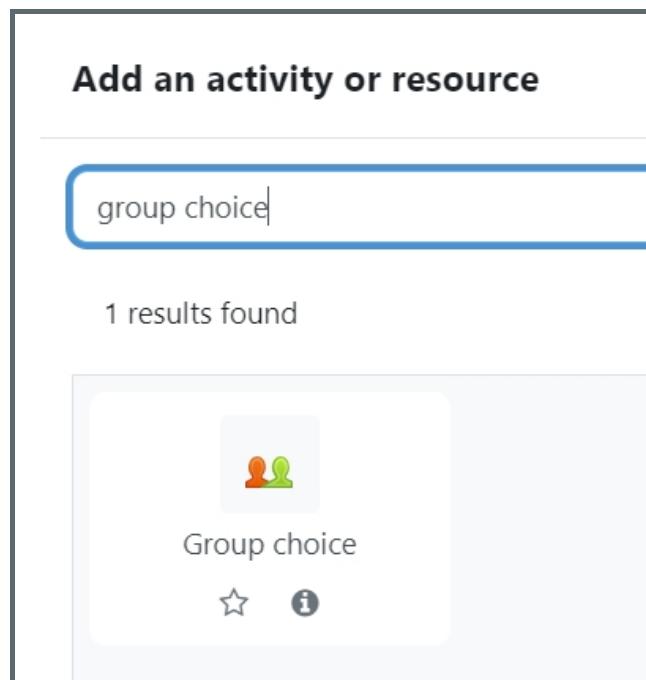
Step 3: Click 'Add an activity or resource' link

1. When editing mode is turned on, navigate to the section where you want to add the group choice activity.
2. Next, click the 'Add an activity or resource' button displayed at the bottom of the section.



Step 4: Choose the Group choice activity

Search "group choice" in the pop up activities and resources search box and select the "Group Choice" activity by clicking the name.



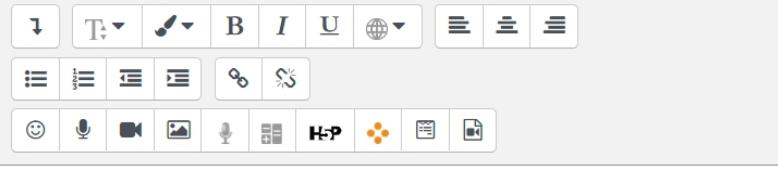
Step 5: Add name and description

Input the name and detailed instructions in the description area for your students to better understand how you want them to choose their own group. e.g. there are 5 groups, each group can only have 10 group members,

please finish selecting your group by [date and time].

▼ **General**

Group choice name !

Description 

Words:0

Display description on course page !

Step 6: Miscellaneous settings

Please go through all the settings to make sure you are happy with the options.

"Allow enrollment to multiple groups": decide if the students can choose only one group or several. By default is disabled, which means students can only select one group. You can enable this option to allow multiple groups.

"Publish results":

If you don't want students to know who is in the groups, select "Do not publish results to students". If you only want them to see after they choose, select "Show results to students only after they answer".

"Privacy of results": Please select the option from the dropdown list to decide if to show full results or partial.

"Allow choice to be updated": If you allow your students to change their choice, please change this to "Yes". By default is "No".

"Show column for unanswered": If you want to see who is not answered yet, please change this to "Yes". By default is "No".

"Limit the number of responses allowed": If you want to set number limit, please change this to "Enable". By default is "Disable".

Once you've enabled the setting, you will be able to set the number in the "General limitation".

▼ Miscellaneous settings

Allow enrollment to multiple groups

Publish results

Always show results to students

Privacy of results

Publish full results, showing names and their choices

Allow choice to be updated

No

Show column for unanswered

No

Filter out response data for users with expired or suspended enrolments

No

Limit the number of responses allowed

Disable

General limitation

0

Apply to all groups

Step 7: Select the available groups for select

Choose the groups you wish the students to select from by clicking them in Available groups and moving them over to Selected groups. Several may be selected and added at once. If you've created grouping, you can select the grouping and click add grouping, all the groups belong to that grouping will be added.

▼ Groups

Groups 

Available Groups

groupingA

Group A
Group B

Selected Groups

Group A
Group B

Add Groups

Remove

Expand All Groupings

Collapse All Groupings

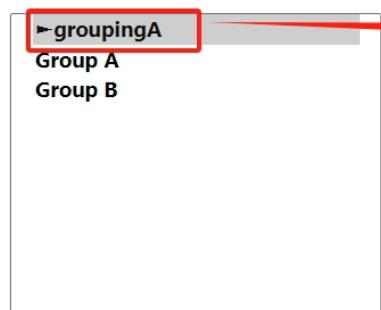
Double click on a grouping to expand/collapse individually.

Double click on a group to add it.

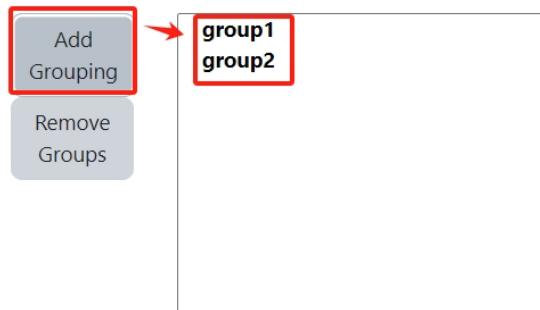
Groups

Groups?

Available Groups



Selected Groups



Expand All Groupings

Collapse All Groupings

Double click on a grouping to expand/collapse individually.

Double click on a group to add it.

Step 8: Restrict answering to this time period

If you want to limit students' answering time, please enable the "Restrict answering to this time period" option first, and then you can set the date and time for open and until.

Restrict answering to this time period

Restrict answering to this time period

Open

Until

Step 9: How does it work?

When students click on the Group choice activity, they can select which group(s) they wish to join.

If allowed, they can toggle a Show/Hide link to see who else is in the groups:



Group choice test

Group choice test

Choice	Group	Show descriptions	Members	Group members
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Group A		1	Sandbox Student 1
<input type="radio"/>	Group B		0	

Save my choice

Step 10: How to download the group list?

As teacher, you can see a link named "view xx responses" after students saved their choices. Click on the link and you can access to the view all responses list.

At the bottom of the page, you can select the format you want to download the groups.

Group choice	Settings	View 2 responses	More ▾
Group choice test			
Choice	Group	Show descriptions	Members
<input type="radio"/>	Group A		2
<input type="radio"/>	Group B		0

View 2 responses



Group choice test

Group choice Settings View 2 responses More ▾

Group choice test

Responses

Group A
(2)

SS Sandbox Student 1

SS Sandbox Student 2

Group B
(0)

Select all / Deselect all

With selected Choose an action ... ▾

Download in ODS format

Download in Excel format

Download in text format



Tips:

You can always add or remove groups from the settings. But it is better not to change the groups after students start to save their choices. Your changes to the groups will confuse the students about their saved choices.

Next steps:

Now that you have finished creating a group choice activity, you may be interested in the following related articles:

[Create a group submission](#)

Online URL: <https://knowledgebase.xjtu.edu.cn/article/how-to-let-your-students-choose-their-own-groups-161.html>