



50 Fun Activities to Boost Engagement with Remote and Hybrid Teams

Build company culture and increase team cohesion in virtual meetings





It's hard to build company culture and increase team cohesion when you're constantly meeting with a group of silent black boxes. If you're struggling to increase engagement during large virtual meetings, like all hands or team meetings, you're not alone.



We've compiled this list of 50 fun activities to boost engagement with your hybrid and remote teams, so you can grow closer and work better together.





General Tips to Increase Engagement in Virtual Meetings

Before we get into the activities, here are a few general tips & tricks that we've heard from HR and team managers that help them boost engagement with remote teams.

1. Make Time for Fun

Building company culture and increasing team cohesion can't be done overnight, and it's hard to accomplish if you don't make time for it. Beyond simply meeting to check in on the status of all your outstanding tasks, make time to spend time with your team. This could be a weekly happy hour, Wine Down Wednesday, or just scheduling some virtual hanging out with your team. If you want this to be part of your company culture, you need to put the time and effort in to make it effective and real.

2. Get Out of Zoom

It's virtually impossible to make connections with a large group of people on Zoom. While Zoom and WebEx are practical tools for many work applications and meetings, they aren't great for forming relationships. Luckily, there are alternative platforms that were designed to help build relationships. [Preciate](#) is one example that offers attendees the chance to move around a virtual space that can be branded to match your company or event. Movement and audio proximity means you can have individual conversations with different people inside the same room, just like real life. It's great for networking and socializing in large groups. And you can try it for free.





3. Appoint an "Energy Officer"

This lucky person will be tasked with bringing some energy to the beginning of your meetings. This can be a conversation starter, some stretching, or anything that takes a few minutes before a meeting to get people focused and engaged. Yes, it sounds a little silly, but give it a try. We've found a noticeable difference in engagement when the Energy Officer is involved.

4. Ask for Cameras On (Sometimes)

If you're trying to build team cohesion, it really helps to see each other's faces. While this isn't required for every virtual meeting you have, identify the ones that you want to ask your team to turn their cameras on for. Then, you need to lead by example, and make sure that everyone is following through. As long as there is a reason behind it, and you combine some team building activities (such as the ones listed below) into that meeting with the cameras on, you shouldn't get too much pushback from the team.



5. Stand Up

Just as with in person meetings, standing is a great way to keep meetings shorter and help keep the blood flowing. This increases the energy in the meeting overall, and helps everyone be more productive. Shorter meetings means more time to get the actual work done, which we'll all appreciate.

6. Use Small Groups

When you need to brainstorm and want to generate ideas, small groups are helpful. Zoom is fine for presenting information to a group of people, but it's not great for simple smaller discussions. Yes, you can move into breakout rooms, but participants can't move where they want to go, or move from one conversation to the next. If you're looking for more autonomy and freedom of movement, check out [Preciate](#).



50 Fun Activities to Increase Engagement with Remote Employees

While many of these activities can be used on any virtual events or meeting platform, some of the instructions are more specific to [Preciate's Social Presence platform](#), which offers guests the ability to move around from one conversation to another. It's not required to use Preciate, but if you're looking to boost engagement in virtual meetings, it's an inexpensive way to do just that, with mingling, movement, and even music.





1. Trivia

If you're looking for just plain fun, trivia is always a popular option. You can have seasonal questions or change themes for each round. There are unlimited options. Break teams into groups, have them spread out in the [Preciate](#) room so no one else can hear them, and have one person from each team submit the answers to the host at the end of each round.

2. 2 Truths & A Lie

Divide the room into small groups of 4-7 people and have each team spread out. Each person takes a turn listing 3 facts about themselves, and the rest of the group has to guess which one is the lie. You will definitely learn something new about your colleagues.

3. Lightning Scavenger Hunt

This one is fun and doesn't involve a lot of planning or money. The organizer creates a list of random items, and reads them out one at a time. Once an item is read, everyone runs to find one of those things and brings it back to their screen. You can give points to the first person to bring back that item, and the person with the most points at the end wins!

4. Recognition

Take time at the beginning or end of a meeting to open the floor for colleague recognition. This doesn't have to be mandatory and there doesn't have to be a prescribed way to do it, but allowing time to give a shout out for those who have gone above and beyond is a good idea to increase participation and spread the love, which helps to make everyone feel like a stronger part of the team.



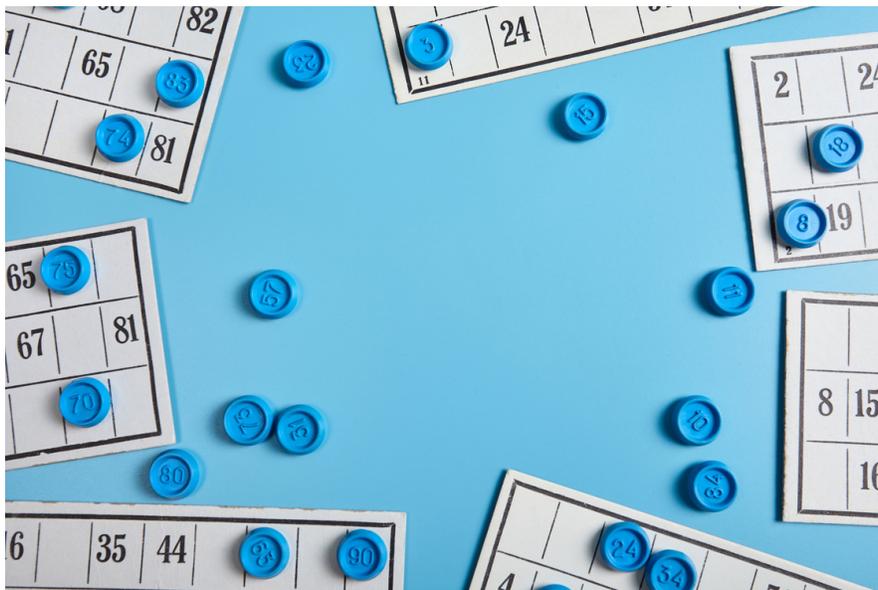


5. Rose, Bud, Thorn

This activity is an opportunity to check in with everyone on the team on a more individual level. Each person takes a minute to share a Rose (something they are happy about), a Bud (something they're looking forward to), and a Thorn (something they aren't so happy about). It's a quick way to check in and see how everyone is doing and what's on their mind.

6. Desktop Show & Tell

Each person in the group takes a turn sharing something on their desk or in their office with the group. This one is pretty simple but a great way to get to know each other and get a glimpse into their life beyond what you see behind them in virtual meetings.



7. Virtual Bingo

Mail cards in advance, or provide a digital version for play. Even better if you're offering prizes to the winners! If you want to take this one up a notch, [hire a Drag Queen](#) to host your bingo!



8. Name that Song

The host plays part of a song, and the first person to name that song correctly in the chat wins! (Just make sure no one is cheating using Shazam on their phones.)

9. Charades

This kids' classic game still works virtually! Everyone takes a turn acting something out silently, while the others guess what it is. This can work in teams as a competition or just on an individual basis without a winner.

10. Describe Yourself in 3 Words

This is just as simple as it sounds. Go around the room and describe yourself in just 3 words. If you're looking to get to know each other better, this can help. Great for new teams or welcoming new members during onboarding.



11. Company History Trivia

How well does your team know the history of your company? Use a company history trivia game to find out, and offer a prize to the winner or winning team.



12. Never Have I Ever

Take turns with one person going into presenter mode, and saying one thing they've never done. Anyone who has done this thing before must either turn off their camera or identify themselves. People get really creative with this one, and you'll learn some interesting things about your colleagues!

13. Show Us Around

We know so little of each other's personal lives, even though we work from home. Name one person every week to give a little tour of whatever part of their personal lives they would like to share.



14. Bucket List Challenge

Everyone goes around the room and shares their bucket list, which is a great opportunity to build connections with other coworkers beyond your work lives. Maybe you'll meet someone else who wants to run a marathon or learn to brew beer at home. This is a great chance to increase team cohesion as you learn more about your team.



15. Would You Rather?

Would you rather have bionic arms, or bionic legs? Would you rather go into the past and meet your ancestors or go into the future and meet your great-great grandchildren? Would you rather have more time or more money? Would you rather have a rewind button or a pause button on your life? Would you rather be able to talk with the animals or speak all foreign languages?

16. Team Reflection

We are often moving so quickly that we miss out on opportunities for reflection. Before jumping into your next virtual meeting, spend some time reflecting on the success of the company or the team. What has worked? What hasn't? Who has been going above and beyond?



17. Speed Dating....without the dating

Take the dating element out of this activity and it's really great for getting to know your colleagues a little better. Split the team in half and have one half spread out around the [Preciate](#) room. This half will stay where they are, and the other half will rotate around the room. Spend 2, 5, or 10 minutes (however much time allows) with each colleague before moving on to the next person. You as the organizer can offer specific conversation starters or just let the conversation flow naturally, and hop into presenter mode or chat with the group when you're ready for people to switch.



18. Name that Baby

This one takes a bit of extra planning but is adorable and fun. Ask each team member to share a baby picture of themselves with the organizer before the event. During this session, the host will share each picture and have your team guess who it is. You can also add these as Room Items inside a [Preciate](#) room and have your team move around from one picture to another and write down their guesses before sending them to the organizer.

19. Personal Facts Guessing Game

Similar to the baby picture game above, ask each person to send in one or 2 personal facts about themselves to the leader in advance. The organizer chooses one fact for each person, and lists them on a document without the names. Now open up a networking session in Preciate where people can move around the room freely, with the goal to identify who belongs to each personal fact. Everyone moves around to chat with others, just as you would in real life. The person who can figure out the most of them in the allotted time wins.



20. Mixology

Follow along with a cocktail recipe together and have every person create the same drink. You could also make a contest out of it and have each person create their best looking cocktail to be judged by the rest of the team.



21. Meet the Pet or Person

Yes, you probably know your coworkers by now. But do you know who else they live with? Ask each person to introduce their pets or another person in their house to the group.

22. Fun Fact

Everyone can share a fun fact about themselves that the group may be surprised by.

23. Neck-Up Costume Contest

Since we only know many of our remote colleagues from the neck up, we might as well embrace that and add a costume contest into it. Who can get more creative than popping on a hat or mask?

24. Product Trivia

This is an alternative to company trivia, and a great option for sales teams specifically. If you're looking for a way to test your team's knowledge, product specific trivia can be the way to go. Ask someone from the product team to host or ask the questions, and see who the smartest person is!



25. Guess Who

One person chooses a random coworker, and has the team guess who they are thinking of by asking yes or no questions. When eliminated, each person can turn off their screen until only 1 person is remaining.

26. Buzz Words

In this drinking game, assign a rule to various buzzwords and hold everyone accountable in following along. If your team or industry has a lot of jargon, that can be a good place to start. Everytime someone mentions a particular buzzword, they must take a sip of their cocktail.

27. "Yes, and!"

This is a classic improv game that helps us practice accepting each other's ideas and cooperating with each other. Begin by making a simple statement. Then, each person to follow will say, "yes, and" adding to the statement and further developing it. This game can be played in pairs or groups!



28. "Most Likely to..."

If your team knows each other pretty well, superlatives can be a fun way to recognize each other. Come up with a list of "most likely to's", and then have everyone vote on who that sounds most like. These can be serious or silly, depending on what type of party you are planning.



29. Virtual Wine, Beer or Whiskey Tasting

If you miss the open bars from your previous parties, this could be a nice alternative. Each employee receives a tasting kit in the mail, and you taste them together under the guidance of a sommelier or other expert.



30. Cookie Wars

Send everyone on your team a cookie decorating kit in advance, then bring them all together to decorate at the same time. This doesn't have to just be for gingerbread! Add in a cocktail and you've got a party!

31. Ice Cream Social

Connect with a private virtual event planner (like [Unboxed Experiences](#)) who will arrange for kits to be sent directly to all of your guests. On event day, a virtual guide will show everyone how to make ice cream in a bag (seriously, it works!).



32. Photo Booth

As with all great photo booths, props are a must. Send your employees each an individual prop to wear to the party. This can be anything from angel wings to an ugly sweater, a Hawaiian shirt, a sombrero, or a hot pink wig. The sky is the limit but it's always fun to surprise the team with a random gift for future virtual parties.

33. Stretching

Nothing ramps up the energy in a meeting like moving your body. And we don't always have to take exercise to the extreme. Stretching is good any time of day, and helps get the blood flowing.



34. Charcuterie Board Contest

This one requires a bit of advance preparation if you want everyone to have an equal chance. Work simultaneously from your own homes to build and present the best charcuterie board with ingredients of your choice. Everyone gets to present, then you vote on a winner. And then you eat!

35. Yoga

Looking for a healthier alternative to all the drinking? Yoga classes are a great way to break up the workday and help everyone get focused. If you don't want to hire a yoga teacher to teach an entire class, try leading the group in some [simple chair yoga](#) poses.

36. Recognition Party

Take your peer-to-peer recognition one step higher. At the beginning or end of your next all hands meeting, ask everyone to stay online and send at least 10 peer recognitions to colleagues who deserve it. (Don't have an employee recognition platform? Try [Preciate Recognition](#) – it's totally free.)



37. Guess the Movie

Break your group into small teams who spread out around the Preciate room. Show screenshots, quick clips, quotes from, or even the basic plots of 10 movies, and have teams name them and then submit them to the organizer. The team who gets the most right wins.

38. Data Discovery

Rather than having just your leadership team talking at everyone else, get the rest of the team involved. Ask someone to present some data findings that their team has found insightful to the team, and open up a discussion.



39. Meditation Break

If mental health is a priority at your company, this is an excellent option. You can screen share a quick guided meditation video for the team to follow along with. No cameras required.

40. Open Mic

Give everyone a heads up that they will have about a minute at the beginning of the meeting to take the virtual stage. Ask them to find or write an icebreaker joke, read a poem, sing a song, play the mandolin—anything they want!

41. Virtual Escape Room

If your team loves solving puzzles, escape rooms are a good idea. This is a good option for more team building if that's what you're going for, although it definitely works best for smaller sized groups.

42. Sip and Paint

Send each member of your team a basic painting kit, or have them purchase one themselves. Watch each other paint while you all sip on the beverage of your choice. At the end, share your creations with the rest of your virtual room and vote on whose is the best. Who is the best Bob Ross among you?



43. Giveaways and Prizes

Nothing motivates some people like a good old fashioned giveaway or prize. Whether you're doing a random drawing, a lottery, raffle, or contest, prizes can oftentimes get everyone engaged.

44. Snapshot Virtual Icebreaker

Have everyone snap a picture from wherever they are and share it with the group. Upload these as a collage and share with the group to get to know your team a little better.

45. Elevator Pitch

This one is especially great for sales teams, but it can work for anyone in the company. Have each person record a 30-second video of themselves pitching the company. Then you can watch them all together and vote on the best. These can be fun, because the time limit is pretty tricky for most people to abide by.



46. Murder Mystery

This is also fun for smaller groups, and requires a bit of advanced planning. Each person is assigned a character, and everyone is expected to show up dressed the part and "in character." Usually best played with the help of a professional team to organize.



47. Virtual Cooking Class

This one works best if you have the budget to bring in a professional to lead the room in a virtual cooking class but is a great team bonding exercise, and a fun reward after having accomplished something together. This can be something small like a cocktail or appetizer, or even assembling a charcuterie board.

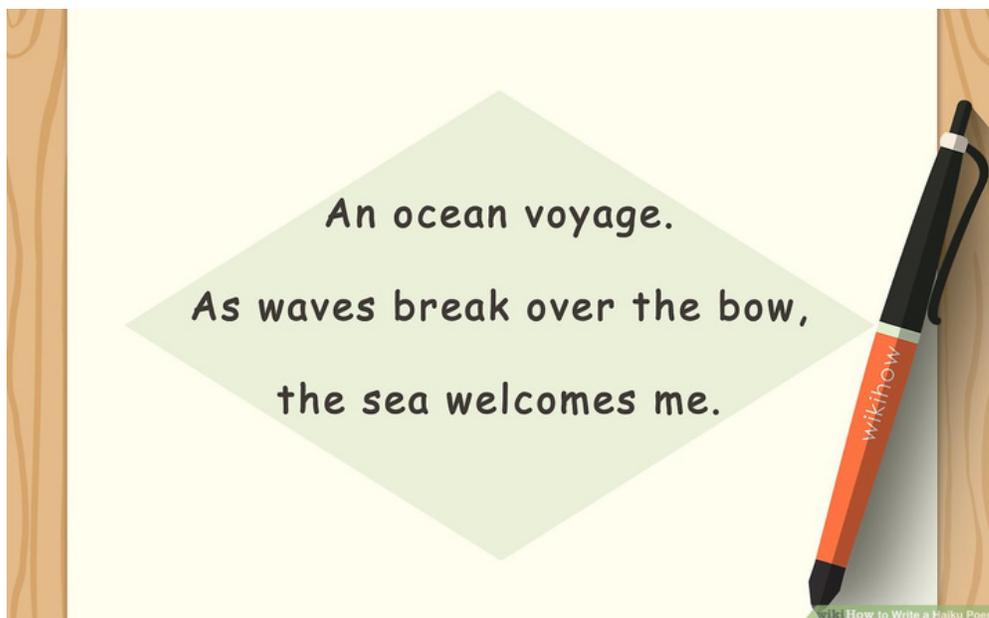
48. Split the Room

Now's the time to ask crazy hypothetical questions and see where everyone stands. Ask any question, and then ask people to move to a particular side of the room based on their answer. Then chat among yourselves until the next question is asked.



49. Home Deliveries

If you have the budget, sending something to each member of your team that they can enjoy with their families at home is a good alternative to providing a meal with your team in the office. And who doesn't love a special home delivery? This could be anything from pie to drinks to an actual meal.



50. Haiku Writing Contest

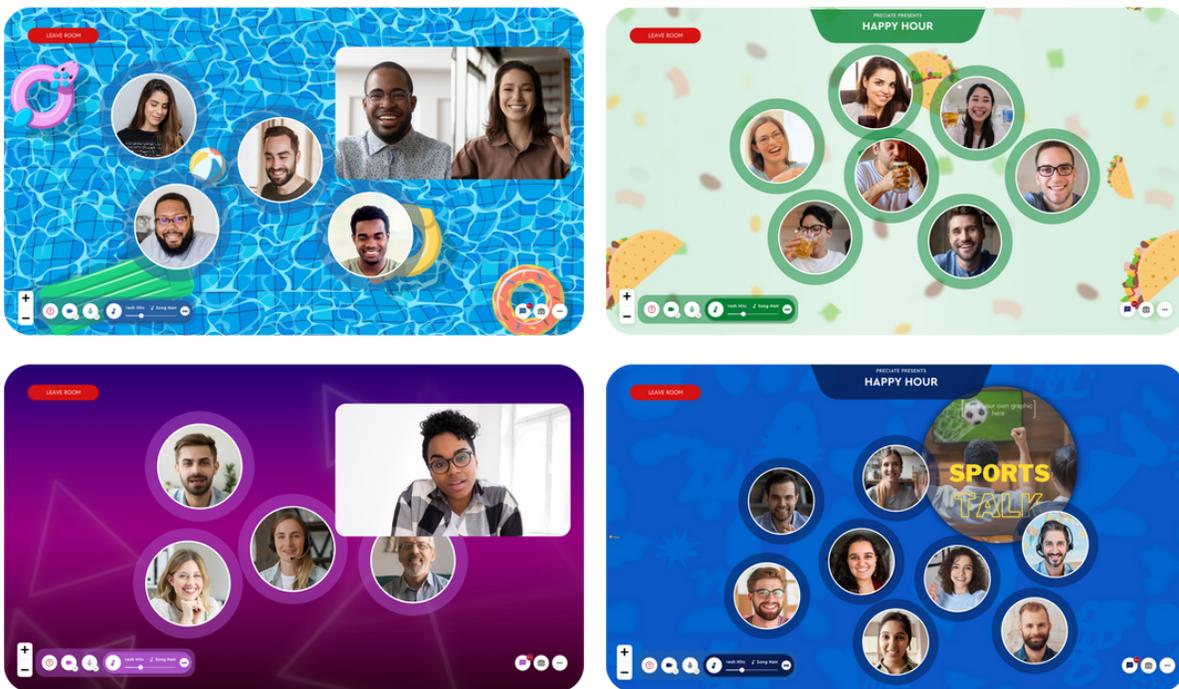
Haikus are a concise form of poetry that traditionally articulate appreciation for the present moment and a connection to nature. They follow a three line structure with the first being 5 syllables, the second 7 syllables, and the third 5 again. Tap into everyone's creative side and make sure they are actively present by writing short little poems either together as a team or individually. When you're done, you can vote on which you liked best. Who knows, the next William Shakespeare may be among you!



Don't Just Meet. Preciate.

We've all been on Zoom events that feel much more like a meeting than a party. The good news is, Zoom is not the only virtual meeting & event platform available, and there are plenty that offer networking and movement, just like real life.

Check out [Preciate](#), a revolutionary virtual meeting & events platform that is designed to boost engagement. Unlike the tiles of Zoom, attendees can move around the room in Preciate, from conversation to conversation, to build healthier relationships and accelerate business



Preciate also has a built-in [Recognition](#) tool that is simple to use, effective and FREE. Drive real engagement and increase employee morale, even with remote or distributed teams.

[Contact us](#) to schedule a demo of the Preciate platform to learn more about how it can help make your next gathering even more fun.

Get in Touch