[What's the biggest no-no when you are a PhD student?](https://www.quora.com/Whats-the-biggest-no-no-when-you-are-a-PhD-student%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)

This is a important question: As per my experience working and collaborating with various PHD students - I have observed couple of things we should not do/avoid:

1. Thinking that we have a lots of time to finish our research and enjoying (or) working on different projects of professors other then ours. That some time leads to neglect your research work/time-waste and your PhD guide might also get angry (and might not support you sometimes based on your actions). So be careful and focus on your work first.
2. Most of the students think networking is not required for PhD people but its the wrong impression - Networking is one of the key factor for anyone in the world to maintain there brand and stay up-to date on the technological advancements by attending conferences, giving talks, etc. Along with it meeting lots of professors, researchers from your field of work and getting to know there research, challenges, opportunities after graduation, etc. That's very important because by the time you finish your PhD - you already know in which part of the world who all are working in your field and whom can you contact for opportunities.
3. Avoiding teaching assistant positions - Its one of the key because one you graduate from the PHD than especially if you would like to go into academic field and become a lecturer, professor, etc. they for sure will ask you for some teaching experience during your PhD university because based on that they can judge your comfort with teaching students, collaborating with faculty, etc. So make to take up these positions coming your way.
4. Avoiding special external lecturers provided by your research guide - This is very important to attend because you get to know what our senior researcher are working on in your field of research and you will also your level of work and contributions you are providing. Along with that you can meet a lots of people and ask questions based on problems you faced during your experimentation, etc. And some times you never know some of the professors, industry professionals - might like your work based on the discussions and then offer you Post-doc opportunities, external scholarship offers, etc.
5. Just working on the theoretical part of the research - Its always better to know more about how it is going to impact the people in real life and is it feasible to be implemented in a short span of time…..and you can also think about converting your thesis into a business by keeping a startup (if you choose entrepreneurship path). And be open for opportunities in front of you - instead of sticking to one specific field.
6. Avoiding fundamentals in your subjects - In starting as well as before completion of your PhD once again brush up your fundamentals in your subjects of work - because mostly in many top university interviews they start from very basic questions and if you cannot answer them …then its gonna be a problem. So make sure your perfect with your basics. It will also be helpful while clearing some of your exams …after PhD such as some of the research positions in universities such as ETH Zurich, EPFL, Stanford, etc. require you to write a (research lab subject exam) for taking you for some of there best research positions.