



Calculator Tutorial

Audio Graphing Calculator

This tutorial will show you some of the aspects and abilities of the calculator screen. You will get to practice a few equations and, in doing so, learn how to operate the calculator. For this entire portion you will need to have the calculator screen selected. This screen is selected on startup by default, so it is likely that you are already there. If not, you can click on the appropriate tab or use the hotkey sequence ALT+O (To bring up the options menu), then C (To select the calculator screen).

BASIC CALCULATION

All basic calculations can be performed using the numeric key pad or the number row located at across the top of the keyboard. The keys are intuitive: plus is the + key, minus is the - key, etc. The equals key can be = or enter if autoreturn is enabled. More complicated functions will be explained in detail later.

Now let's try some calculations. Each button on the calculator can be clicked with a mouse or can be tabbed to with a keyboard. Enter the following calculation into the calculator:

$$4 + 6 =$$

The display should now read 10. Next calculation:

$$7 - 4.5 =$$

Your answer should be 2.5. Let's try another:

$$5 * 2 =$$

10 should be displayed.

You now have a feel for the basic ins and outs of the calculator. Let's try something a bit harder, like the use of parenthesis. Enter in the following calculation:

$$3 + 4 * 3 + 1 =$$

Your answer should be 16. Now try it this way:

$$(3 + 4) * (3 + 1) =$$

Now you will get 28 for your answer. Placing parts of your equation into parenthesis will cause those sections to be calculated first.

You should now have a basic understanding of how the calculator reads your keystrokes and interprets equations. Many of the more advanced functions and calculations will work differently, however. Some only require that you press the function key. For our next example, please change your mode to Degrees. You can use the hotkey CTRL+T to change focus to the Trig Mode dropdown box and then the up and down arrows to make your selection. Now enter the following expression:

90 Sine (the hotkey for sine is SHIFT+S)

The calculator will now display the number 1. Notice how no use of the equals key was necessary to obtain your answer?

If you have used a graphing or scientific calculator before, the use of the AGC will likely be intuitive. If you have little or no experience, you may wish to practice some more equations or expressions of your own until you feel comfortable navigating around.

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