

Communicating Mathematics through Homework


Learning mathematics involves learning how to communicate your ideas effectively. As a student, much of this communication will be in the form of homework. Therefore, so that I may provide you with meaningful and worthwhile feedback, it is important that you put your homework in an easy to read, easy to navigate format. After all, how you present your work should enhance the ideas you are trying to communicate, not impede them. With that in mind, the following are some suggestions for submitting homework in your mathematics courses.

- Your handwriting should be legible. Also, please use graph paper for **ALL** graphs.
- Homework with multiple pages should be stapled in the upper left-hand corner.
- In the upper right-hand corner you should write (in this order)
 - Your Name
 - Your Class and Section Number
 - The Due Date of the Homework
 - Homework Number
- Problems should be clearly labeled and numbered on the left side of the page. There should also be a visible separation between problems.
- Each solution should begin with the original problem statement.
- You should leave the top left margin and the entire left margin blank so that graders may use this space for scoring and comments.
- To ensure that each problem is graded, problems should be written in the order they are assigned.
- It is good practice to first work out the solutions to homework problems on scratch paper, and to then neatly write up your solutions. This will help you to turn in a clean finished product.
- You should show as much work as possible. The process is more important than the answer.
- You may work together on assignments. You should write up your solutions by yourself, unless you are specifically told otherwise by your instructor. Also, you should always acknowledge any help received, at the top of the assignment or in the margin.


Homework that does not follow these guidelines and/or are difficult to read will not be graded. You will receive a grade of 0.

Easy to Read Homework Format

Style 1

	<div style="text-align: right; margin-bottom: 20px;"> Name Class & Section Due Date Homework Number </div> <p style="text-align: center;">Section 4.5, p. 376 #66, 68, 70, 72, 74</p> <p>Assume that $\log_{10} 4 = 0.6021$, $\log_{10} 7 = 0.8451$, and $\log_{10} 9 = 0.9542$. Use these values and the properties of logarithms to find each value. Do not use a calculator.</p> <p>66. $\log_{10} \frac{7}{4}$ Solution:</p> $\begin{aligned} \log_{10} \frac{7}{4} &= \log_{10} 7 - \log_{10} 4 \\ &= 0.8451 - 0.6021 \\ &= 0.243 \end{aligned}$ <p>68. $\log_{10} 36$ Solution:</p> $\begin{aligned} \log_{10} 36 &= \log_{10} 9 \cdot 4 \\ &= \log_{10} 9 + \log_{10} 4 \\ &\vdots \end{aligned}$
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Style 2

	FOLD	<div style="text-align: right; margin-bottom: 20px;"> Name Class & Section Due Date Homework Number </div> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Section 4.5, p. 376 #66, 68, 70, 72, 74</u></p> <p>Assume that $\log_{10} 4 = 0.6021$, $\log_{10} 7 = 0.8451$, and $\log_{10} 9 = 0.9542$. Use these values and the properties of logarithms to find each value. Do not use a calculator.</p> <p>66. $\log_{10} \frac{7}{4}$ Solution:</p> $\begin{aligned} \log_{10} \frac{7}{4} &= \log_{10} 7 - \log_{10} 4 \\ &= 0.8451 - 0.6021 \\ &= 0.243 \end{aligned}$ <p>68. $\log_{10} 36$ \vdots</p>
		<p>76. $\log_{10} \frac{324}{63}$ Solution:</p> $\begin{aligned} \log_{10} \frac{324}{63} &= \log_{10} \frac{36}{7} \\ &= \log_{10} 36 - \log_{10} 7 \\ &= \log_{10} 9 + \log_{10} 4 - \log_{10} 7 \\ &= 0.9542 + 0.6021 - 0.8451 \\ &= 0.7112 \end{aligned}$ <p>Use a calculator and the change-of-base formula to find each logarithm.</p> <p>78. $\log_7 3$ \vdots</p>