

Homework in Math 1



Completing homework correctly is the most important way to find success in Math 1. This handout is to provide you information on my view of homework and how and why I assign homework daily.

Homework is your chance to practice what we have learned in class INDIVIDUALLY. Individual practice gives you the opportunity to see if you truly understood what was presented in class that day. I work very hard to assign *just* enough problems so you know whether or not you understand the material. I do not typically assign lots of problems, as my objective with homework is for you to see if you understood the lesson. If you see you do not understand the problems in the homework, read below for suggestions. If you find you did understand the problems, but you are not very comfortable with completing the work, do some extra problems. Again, my objective with homework assignments is for you to assess yourself with your understanding from the lesson, therefore I am not assigning enough problems for extra practice if you need more

practice. This is where you can help yourself—do extra problems for practice if needed.

TAKE TIME to complete the homework assignments CORRECTLY. If you realize you do not understand the material from the day, do not just put down an answer—this will not help you understand the material or do well come test time. Please use the following suggestions to help you understand the material BEFORE returning the class the next day and complete the homework assignment correctly. I also suggest you complete more problems than the ones assigned for extra practice to ensure you understand the material.

1. Look back over notes. If there are not many notes to review, consider taking better notes during class so there are more problems to help should questions arise with homework.
2. If answers are not found in the notes, look over the section in your textbook that the homework covers.
3. Seek some resources from the Internet. I try to post how to videos and/or webpages on each topic, so start with my website for guidance. If you cannot find what you need from my website, Khan Academy (<https://www.khanacademy.org/math/algebra>) and Regents Prep Center (<http://regentsprep.org/Regents/math/ALGEBRA/math-ALGEBRA.htm>) are both pretty reliable resources that contain most topics we will cover in Math 1 (links also found on my main online resources webpage).
4. Contact a classmate. Learning from each other is a great resource and you both will benefit from collaboration. This does not mean you COPY work from each other—this means you work together to ensure you both understand the problems and the lesson from the day.
5. If tutoring is needed, I am always happy to help—please see my tutoring schedule for times.

There are lots of topics to cover in Math 1 in order to meet all the course requirements. Math courses on block scheduling move VERY QUICKLY and cover a lot of material each day. Therefore, there will not be time to reteach materials from the day before. If you are confused about a topic, PLEASE use the suggestions above or see me so you can understand material on a daily basis. Failure to understand a topic will affect future understanding, so please stay on top of your learning daily.