

**Graphing Calculator Workshop Part #1**  
**Basic Operations and Graphing on the TI-83 or TI-84 Graphing Calculator**

**Notes:** Press the ENTER key for answers (ENTER means = sign)  
To get back to the main screen, press 2<sup>nd</sup>, then Mode (the Quit function)

**Exercises:**

Turn the calculator ON  
CLEAR the screen

$-9 + 5 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$  (Use the minus sign key for leading minus signs)

$20 - 8 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$  (Use the subtraction key between numbers)

$\frac{5}{40} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$  To write as a simplified fraction: MATH / ENTER / ENTER  $\underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

$\frac{7+8}{4+1} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$  When + or - signs are in fractions ENCLOSE NUMERATOR AND  
DENOMINATOR INSIDE PARENTHESIS!!!!

**Exponents:** There are 3 different ways to enter exponents with the calculator:

$(-5)^2 = \underline{25}$  Use squaring key " $x^2$ " to square a number  
 $-5^2 = \underline{-25}$

$4^3 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$  Use MATH key and option #3 to cube a number

$2^5 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$  Use the " $\wedge$ " key for entering exponents higher than 2 or 3  
(with old style calculator, enter fractional exponents *in parenthesis*!!!)

**Radicals:** There are 3 different ways to enter radicals with the calculator:

$\sqrt{81} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$  Square root is above the  $x^2$  key, so we must press "2<sup>nd</sup>  $x^2$ "

$\sqrt[3]{27} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$  Use the MATH button and option #4 to find a cube root  
*or  $27^{(1/3)}$*

$\sqrt[4]{81} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$  To enter a higher exponent, you must first enter the index,  
*or  $81^{(1/4)}$*  then press MATH, option #5, and finally enter the radicand

**Check for Complex Mode (and change if needed)**

$\sqrt{-100} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$  Press MODE, scroll down to "Real", scroll right to cover "a+bi", press ENTER, 2<sup>nd</sup> Quit

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**Special Symbols**

$(8i)(2i) = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$   $i$  is above the decimal point (use 2<sup>nd</sup> key)

Give the approximate value of  $\pi$  (above  $\wedge$ ) (to 3 decimal places):                     

Give the approximate value of  $e$  (above  $\div$ ) (to 3 decimal places):                     

$|4 - 20| = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$  2<sup>nd</sup> Catalog gives list with absolute value at the top

**Graphing lines:**

Enter the equation  $3x + 6y = 5$  (isolate  $y$  and enter into “ $y =$ ” then press GRAPH)

- Find the point on the line where  $x = 3$                       (2<sup>nd</sup> TRACE; #1; 3; Enter)

**Graphing Higher Level Functions:**

Enter the equation  $f(x) = -x^2 - x + 6$  (into “ $y =$ ”) and find:

- $x$  intercepts:                      (2<sup>nd</sup> TRACE; 2:Zero ; left bound; right bound ; guess)  
➤  $y$  intercept:                      (2<sup>nd</sup> TRACE; 1:Value;  $x = 0$ )  
➤ local maximum:                      (2<sup>nd</sup> TRACE; 4:Maximum; left bound; right bound ; guess)

Correctly enter the function  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x+2}$  and find:

- $f(0) = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$  (2<sup>nd</sup> TRACE; 1:Value;  $x = 0$ )  
➤  $f(-2) = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$  ( $x = -2$ ) what happens to  $y$ ?

We can use the “Intersection” function to find the solution to an equation

$$x^2 - 5x + 3 = 2x - 7$$

- 1) set  $y_1 =$  left side and  $y_2 =$  right side
- 2) 2<sup>nd</sup> TRACE; #5: Intersect
- 3) Enter (our first “curve” (or equation) is in  $y_1$ )
- 4) Enter (our second “curve” (or equation) is in  $y_2$ )
- 5) Use the Left and Right arrows to get the curser close to the intersection we are looking at
- 6) Record your answer for the first solution  $x = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$
- 7) Repeat steps 2 through 6 and record your answer for the second solution  $x = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

You can store the answer to your problem to use as a simplified way to check your answer:

- Enter solution #1 into the main screen of the calculator
- Press the STO→ button
- Press the X,T,Θ,n button
- Press ENTER
- Enter the left side of the equation; Press ENTER; Enter the right side of the equation; Press ENTER
- The 2 numbers should be identical (or very close to it, depending on rounding error)

**This technique can be used for LOTS of equations to check your work (especially useful on tests!).**