



Dear Student,

You have the advantage of using a computerized web-based homework program called **MathXL**. Below are instructions for using the program as well as some suggestions.

In order to use MathXL, you will first need a **Student Access Code**. If you bought your book at the bookstore (either new or used), it should either have a code bundled with it or you should have been given a code at checkout. If this was forgotten, you can take your receipt back to the bookstore to get the code. If you need to buy a code for any reason, you may buy one at the bookstore or you may purchase a code online at www.mathxl.com (a 12 month code is sufficient). If you already have a code from a previous quarter (whether at UCR or elsewhere) and the program says it has expired, please contact mathxl@math.ucr.edu, with your login name and password, and the expiration date will be extended. However, you cannot use someone else's code as each code is only good for one person. **Note:** Be sure you buy a code for **MathXL**, not MyMathLab.

The program runs on either a PC or a Macintosh system, using most browsers (e.g., Internet Explorer, Mozilla Firefox, Google Chrome,...). However, AOL users must minimize the AOL browser and use another.

If you do not have access to your own computer, any of the computer labs on campus (e.g., Watkins 2101, Watkins 2111, Sproul 2225, The Learning Center, the libraries, the Residence Halls) may be used.

TO REGISTER AND ENROLL

1. Go to www.mathxl.com and click **Register**.
2. Enter the Access Code as referenced above.
3. Follow the on-screen instructions. You will need the Course ID provided by your instructor.
4. Make a note of your Login Name and Password as this is what you will use to login to MathXL each time.

TO DO HOMEWORK

1. If you prefer to do your homework with pencil and paper, see # 8f below.
2. Click **Homework and Tests** from the left navigation bar.
3. The list of assignments will appear. Please note that this does not always default to the correct page. Use the **Previous**, **Next**, or **View All** options at the top as needed. Click a homework title to open it.
4. Click an exercise link to launch an exercise. If you need help understanding how to enter answers, go to **Course Home** and click on **How to Enter Answers**.
5. When using **Math Symbols** in entering answers, use the arrow keys to move beyond the symbol when necessary (*be careful not to leave anything extraneous, such as a comma, in a symbol – this is a particular problem when entering radicals*).
6. Click **Check Answer** to record your solution. If this is a multiple part question, the button will now read **Continue**. Keep going until this button reads **Similar Exercise**. Note: Be sure to adhere to any instructions given in blue about how to enter your answer.
7. For most fill in the blank questions you are given 3 chances to answer correctly. After the third attempt the exercise is marked wrong. However, clicking on **Similar Exercise** gives you 3 more chances. Some other question types (e.g., multiple choice) allow only one try before you are given the **Similar Exercise** option.
8. Note that there are several options available on the right-hand side.
 - a) **Important! Help Me Solve This** is very useful when MathXL gives you “ugly” numbers for the exercise. Click here and then return immediately to the problem. New numbers will be given. No instructor minds if you do this – we have no control over the random numbers the program gives you and are concerned mostly that you learn the concept. The button's intended purpose is to provide a guided walkthrough of the exercise on the screen. This, too, is useful of course.
 - b) **View an Example** provides a walkthrough of a similar exercise, worked out step-by-step. Once finished you can return to the exact same problem you were working on.
 - c) **Video** and **Animation** require space on the hard drive and adequate processing speed in order to work correctly. Watching these does not cause number regeneration.
 - d) **Textbook** brings up all the pages of that section of the book except the homework exercises.
 - e) **Ask My Instructor** provides a direct link to the problem you are working on so you don't need to explain the exercise itself.
 - f) **Print** allows you to print either just that exercise or the whole exercise set. You can leave the program while working the problems out on paper; the numbers should not regenerate.

9. Your work is periodically submitted automatically to the instructor. The **Save** button is provided just to keep things clean. **Note:** You don't have to complete all of the exercises during one session.

TO CHANGE YOUR COURSE (IF NECESSARY)

Click on **My Courses**, then **Enroll in a new course**. Finally, choose **I am taking a course that is using MathXL and need to enroll in my instructor's course** and enter the new Course ID.

TO TAKE A TEST

1. Click **Homework and Tests**, then **Quizzes & Tests**.
2. Instructor-generated tests, if any, are displayed at the top and MathXL-generated sample tests are shown at the bottom. The sample tests cover all of the material within each chapter.
3. Click a test title to begin.
4. Once in the test, use the **Overview** option at the top right to move around easily and see which problems still remain to be attempted.
5. Click **Submit** when you are finished. A page will appear that shows your score, time spent, etc.
6. Once a test has been submitted, you can print the test using the **Review** option unless your instructor has disabled this option. You must submit the test (even if you don't do any of the questions) before this option presents itself. This is a nice feature to use when studying for tests.
7. Most tests can be tried again by repeating the above steps. Different numbers, and sometimes questions, will be generated each time.

RESULTS

The **Results** page gives you the opportunity to see your grade so far. You can choose to see just the homework score by using the right-hand drop-down menu. You can also review your homework and tests from this page – this is the place to go for extra practice. **Please note that your score may not be accurate if your professor has not yet submitted zeroes for missing past due assignments.**

STUDY PLAN

The **Study Plan** option provides access to all of the exercises in MathXL for any given section of the book. Each exercise number corresponds to the same exercise in the book. This is another place to go for extra practice. If you have attempted some of the tests, the study plan may keep track of what you got wrong and offer suggestions of where you could use more practice (I wouldn't rely on this entirely though). Note that topics not covered at UCR have been removed.

FOR TECHNICAL SUPPORT

From MathXL (either the front page if you can't get in, or from inside): Click on the "Support" Button at the top and enter the chat room or fill out a "help" form. This is monitored 24/7.

Phone: 1-800-677-6337 (Mon-Fri 8am-10pm, Sun 5pm-12mm EST)

For UCR specific questions (e.g., extension of an expired account), email mathxl@math.ucr.edu