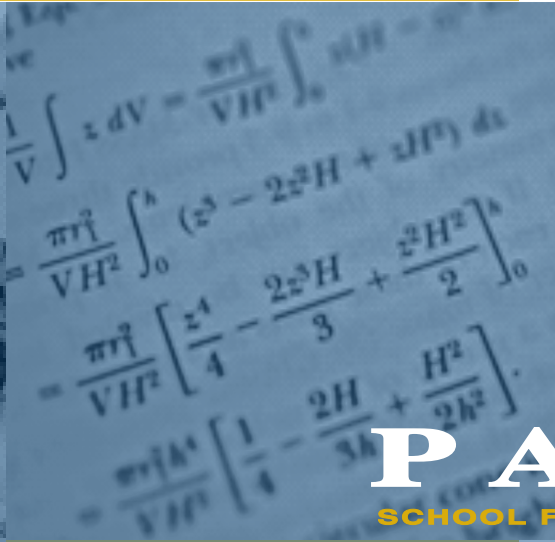




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*A Navigational  
Guide to Better  
Study Habits*

**MATH**

## TIPS FOR HOMEWORK

**A**lways read math problems completely before beginning any calculations. If you “glance” too quickly at a problem, you may misunderstand what really needs to be done to complete the problem.

**W**henver possible, draw a diagram. Even though you may be able to visualize the situation mentally, a hand drawn diagram will allow you to label the picture, to add auxiliary lines, and to view the situation from different perspectives.

**K**now your calculator! If you must borrow a calculator, be sure you know how that calculator operates. If you are not familiar with how a particular calculator works, your calculations may be incorrect.

**I**f you know that your answer to a question is incorrect, and you cannot find your mistake, start over on a clean piece of paper. Sometimes when you try to correct a problem, you keep overlooking the mistake. Starting over on a clean piece of paper will let you focus on the question, not on trying to find the error.

**D**o not feel that you must use every number in a problem when doing your calculations. Some mathematics problems have “extra” information. These questions are testing your ability to recognize the needed information, as well as your mathematical skills.

**B**e sure that you are working in the same units of measure when performing calculations. If a problem involves inches, feet and yards, be sure to

make the appropriate conversions so that all of your values are in the same unit of measure (for example, change all values to feet).

**B**e sure that your answer “makes sense” (or is logical). For example, if a question asks you to find the number of feet in a drawing and your answer comes out to be a negative number, you know that answer cannot be right. (Distance is a positive concept – we cannot measure negative feet.)

**R**emember that it may be necessary to “solve” for additional information in a problem before being able to arrive at the final answer. These questions are called “two-step” problems and are testing your ability to recognize what information is needed to arrive at an answer.

**I**f time permits, go back and do the more difficult problems on the test again on a separate piece of paper. If these “new” answers are the same as your previous answers, chances are good that your first solution is correct.

**W**hen asked to “show work” or “justify your answer”, don't be lazy. Write down EVERYTHING about the problem, including the work you did on your calculator. Include diagrams, calculations, equations, and explanations written in complete sentences. You did the work...don't stop half-way now.

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“The half of knowledge is knowing where to find knowledge. Here, you will find our Paxon attempt to locate knowledge. Use this as a guide and your destination will be reached”.

*Mr. Royce L. Turner, Principal*

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Use these study tips as your GPS, to guide you on the right path towards continued growth, potential, and success in your education destination!



**I**f you are stuck on a particular problem, go on with the rest of the test. Often while solving a new problem you will get an idea as to how to attack that difficult problem.

**I**f you simply cannot determine the answer to a question, make a guess. Think about the problem and the information you know to be true. Make a guess that will be logical based upon the conditions of the problem.

**I**n certain problems, you may be able to “guess” at an appropriate (or reasonable) answer. After you perform your calculations, see if your final answer is close to your guess.

**R**emain confident! Don't stress! Focus on what you DO know, not on what you do not know. You know a LOT of math!!

## SUCCESS IN GEOMETRY

✓ Pre-read assignment. Complete tool kits before coming to class.

✓ Review tool kits and notes daily before starting homework.

✓ Re-read tool kits before starting homework.

✓ Begin homework the it is assigned. Check homework online.

✓ Attend tutoring sessions as needed.

✓ Use “study buddy” for homework help.

✓ Use videos available in media center and class library.

✓ Use reference materials available in the class library.

✓ Use Skill Builders from the CPM book for more examples.

✓ Use other reference materials in the CPM book - glossary and formula pages.

## IMPORTANT MATH LINKS

Make yourself stronger in your weaker areas of Algebra!! This website offers easy to understand, practical Algebra lessons ranging from beginning to advanced in every Benchmark cluster. [www.purplemath.com](http://www.purplemath.com)

Over 2000 on-line videos of math lessons! Algebra through Calculus with real teachers with real personalities teaching quick, clear lessons. [www.brightstorm.com](http://www.brightstorm.com)

Free resource for math review materials. This site has cyber exams! Test yourself before the test. [www.sosmath.com](http://www.sosmath.com)

Algebra, Geometry, Calculus, Trigonometry, and Statistics...it's all here in both lesson and video. [www.fremathhelp.com/math-lessons.html](http://www.fremathhelp.com/math-lessons.html)