

Using calculators during exams

GCSE examinations

Candidates may use a calculator in an exam unless prohibited by the awarding body's specification.

The instructions on the question paper will say whether calculators are allowed or not. If the instructions do not include such a statement, calculators should be treated as standard equipment and may be used by candidates.

Where the use of calculators is allowed, **candidates are responsible for making** sure that their calculators meet the awarding bodies' regulations.

The instructions set out in this section apply to all examinations unless stated otherwise in the awarding body's specification.

Candidates should be told these regulations beforehand and be familiar with the **Information for Candidates** documents.

Calculators must be:

- of a size suitable for use on the desk;
- either battery or solar powered.
- **free of lids, cases and covers** which have printed instructions or formulae.

The candidate is responsible for the following:

- the calculator's power supply;
- the calculator's working condition.
- clearing anything stored in the calculator.

Calculators must not:

- be designed or adapted to offer any of these facilities: -
 - language translators;
 - symbolic algebra manipulation;
 - symbolic differentiation or integration;
 - communication with other machines or the internet.
- be borrowed from another candidate during an examination for any reason;

- have retrievable information stored in them - this includes: -
 - databanks;
 - dictionaries;
 - mathematical formulae;
 - text.

Advice: *** An invigilator may give a candidate a replacement calculator.

Where access is permitted to use a calculator for part of an examination, it is acceptable for candidates to place their calculators on the floor under their desks in sight of the invigilator(s) for the non-calculator portion of the exam.

Using calculators in Exams – A Level Mathematics examinations

Candidates may use a calculator in all A Level Mathematics Examinations.
Candidates are responsible for making sure that their calculators meet the guidelines set out below.

The use of technology permeates the study of A Level Mathematics.

Calculators used **MUST** include the following features:-

- An iterative function
- The ability to compute summary statistics and access probabilities from standard statistical distributions.

Candidates must be told these regulations beforehand and be familiar with the Information for Candidates documents.

<p>Calculators must be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• of a size suitable for use on the desk;• either battery or solar powered;• free of lids, cases and covers which have printed instructions or formulas.	<p>Calculators must not:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• be designed or adapted to offer any of these facilities: -<ul style="list-style-type: none">• language translators;• symbolic algebra manipulation;• symbolic differentiation or integration;• communication with other machines or the internet;• be borrowed from another candidate during an examination for any reason;*• have retrievable information stored in them – this includes:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• databanks;• dictionaries;• mathematical formulas;• text.
<p>The candidate is responsible for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the calculator's power supply;• the calculator's working condition.• clearing anything stored in the calculator.	

Advice:* An invigilator may give a candidate a replacement calculator.

Advice for candidates

If you have a **Helix Oxford Maths set** you must take out all the equipment you need to complete the paper/s and leave the box in your bag.

Please note that **ALL** equipment should be in a **CLEAR PLASTIC PENCIL CASE**.