

WeBWorK Guidelines

The WeBWorK home page for this course is:

<http://gauss.vaniercollege.qc.ca/webwork2/DACdc>

Consider bookmarking it. Your John Abbott student number is both your username and your password. The first time you log in you should:

1. change your password (for obvious security reasons), and
2. enter your preferred e-mail address (click on the User Settings link at the left of the page).
IMPORTANT: Most WeBWorK pages include a button for e-mailing me directly from within WeBWorK. By default, your email is set to *studentid@johnabbottcollege.net*, so if you're fine with that, you can leave it as is.

Once you are logged in, you can select a problem set by clicking on it, and attempt the problems therein. If you don't know how to enter an answer, here is a short table showing how to enter certain expressions into WeBWorK:

Expression	What to type in a WeBWorK answer box
$-\frac{13}{7}$	-13/7
$(3, \infty)$ [the interval $x > 3$]	(3, infinity)
$[-4, 5)$ [the interval $-4 \leq x < 5$]	[-4, 5)
$(-\infty, 7) \cup (7, \infty)$ [all $x \neq 7$]	(-infinity, 7) U (7, infinity)
$(-\infty, \infty)$	(-infinity, infinity)
$x^2 - \sqrt{x}$	x^2 - sqrt(x)
$1/x$	1/x or x^(-1)
$\sqrt[3]{x^5}$	x^(5/3)
$\sin 3x$	sin(3x)
$\frac{1}{2}\pi$	1/2 pi or pi/2
$\ln(1-x) + e^{x^2+3}$	ln(1-x) + e^(x^2+3)
$5 - 2x + 1 $	5 - abs(2x+1)
$\binom{10}{4}$ OR $\frac{10!}{4!6!}$	10!/(4!6!)

(If what you need isn't in this table, consult the link "complete list of functions," which is near the bottom of the Set Info for any WeBWorK assignment (to the right of the problem list).

Because WeBWorK accepts exact answers like $\pi/4$ or $\sqrt{7}$, you'll rarely need to use a calculator when doing WeBWorK problems (and, besides, doing them without a calculator will be better practice for tests). When you have typed an answer into an answer box, you can preview it, for example, to see whether what you've typed means what you intend, or to check for missing parentheses. This is especially useful if you're allowed only a limited number of attempts at a problem since an answer is not checked for correctness when you preview it (and previewing doesn't count as an attempt).

As you work through your assignment, please keep the following in mind:

1. Give yourself enough time. You're highly unlikely to finish if you start it the day it's due.
2. Read through all the questions, think about them (and try to do them) EVEN if you're not completely sure how to do them. You'd be surprised how much of a difference this can make with understanding course material.
3. If you can't get the correct answer after a few tries, consider going on to the next question. Return to the question you're stuck on after getting help (or a good night's sleep). Note that in general you will have a LIMITED number of tries.
4. You'll get more out of doing these assignments if you focus not on the marks (which aren't likely to make much of a difference to your final grade) but on understanding the math.