

ACT Math Test Tips

What will the ACT Math Test look like?

60 questions in 60 minutes.

5, not 4, multiple choice answers

Question types: basic problems and word problems

PACING

Use calculator wisely. ?s designed to be answered within a minute, if that.

Don't read the instructions! Read instructions BEFORE test day! (see back side)

Scores and types of questions:



Math test scale score: 1 - 36

Content	Subscore	%	# of ?s
Pre-algebra/Elementary Algebra	1 - 18	40%	24
Pre-algebra		23%	14
Elementary Algebra		17%	10

Content	Subscore	%	# of ?s
Intermediate Algebra/Coordinate Geometry	1 - 18	30%	18
Intermediate Algebra		15%	9
Coordinate Geometry		15%	9

Content	Subscore	%	# of ?s
Plane Geometry/Trigonometry	1 - 18	30%	18
Plane Geometry		23%	14
Trigonometry		7%	4

Composite score: 1 - 36 (average of all 4 test scale scores)

For a break down of each of the areas above: <http://www.actstudent.org/testprep/descriptions/mathcontent.html>

TEST STRATEGY

Encourage inner artist. On right-hand side of every page is a column with header "DO YOUR FIGURING HERE". Use space to write formulas, graphs, drawings of triangles, etc.



Composite FYI

- * 22 composite: answer 34-35 ?s correctly.
- * 26 composite: answer 43-44 ?s correctly.
- * 30+ answer 50-60 ?s correctly.
- * The above are all approximates.
- * Difficult ?s worth same as easy ones.
- Answer easy ones for more points – GUESS on tough ones. No penalty for wrong answers!

Instructions for the Math Test

Don't waste a single minute reading instructions during the test. Learning them before the day of the test saves valuable time and effort! The Math instructions are below, so get to reading!

DIRECTIONS: Solve each problem, choose the correct answer, and then fill in the corresponding oval on your answer document.

Do not linger over problems that take too much time. Solve as many as you can; then return to the others in the time you have left for this test.

You are permitted to use a calculator on this test. You may use your calculator for any problems you choose, but some of the problems may best be done without using a calculator.

Note: Unless otherwise stated, all of the following should be assumed.

1. Illustrative figures are NOT necessarily drawn to scale.
2. Geometric figures lie in a plane.
3. The word *line* indicates a straight line.
4. The word *average* indicates arithmetic mean.

ACT College & Career Readiness Standards

<http://www.act.org/content/act/en/college-and-career-readiness/standards.html>

Test Prep

- ACT online prep: <https://academy.act.org/>
- ACT sample test: <http://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/the-act/test-preparation/math-practice-test-questions.html?page=0&chapter=0>
- ACT Student app in iTunes & Play Store
- Preparing for the ACT booklet:
 - <http://www.act.org/content/dam/act/unsecured/documents/ACT-StudentInfoBooklet.pdf>
- *The Real ACT Prep Guide* book (from the makers of the ACT): find in bookstores
- *Cracking the ACT* by The Princeton Review: find in bookstores
- March 2 Success: <https://www.march2success.com/main/learnmore/satact>