

# Calculator Policy - PreACT

## Use of Calculators on the Math Test

The ACT calculator policy is designed to ensure fairness for all examinees, avoid disturbances in the testing room, and protect the security of the test materials.

- All problems on the math test can be solved without a calculator
- A permitted calculator may be used on the PreACT math test only
- The calculator must be turned off and put away during all other tests
- Examinees may use any four-function, scientific, or graphing calculator unless it has features described in the **Prohibited** list
- For models on the **Permitted with Modifications** list, examinees will be required to modify some of the calculator's features
- Accessible calculators (such as audio/talking or Braille calculators) may be allowed

ACT regularly updates information about which calculators are prohibited. To be certain their calculator will be permitted on test day, examinees should visit [www.act.org/calculator-policy.html](http://www.act.org/calculator-policy.html) or call 800.498.6481 for a recorded message.

## Calculators Permitted With Modification

The following types of calculators are permitted, but only after they are modified as noted:

- Calculators that can hold programs or documents—Remove all documents and remove all programs that have computer algebra system functionality.
- Calculators with paper tape—Remove the tape.
- Calculators that make noise—Turn off the sound.
- Calculators with an infrared data port—Completely cover the infrared data port with heavy opaque material such as duct tape or electrician's tape (includes Hewlett-Packard HP 38G and HP 39G series and HP 48G).
- Calculators that have power cords—Remove all power/electrical cords.

## Prohibited Calculators

The following types of calculators are prohibited:

- Calculators with built-in or downloaded computer algebra system functionality—Prohibited calculators in this category include:
  - ~ Texas Instruments: All model numbers that begin with TI-89 or TI-92.
  - ~ TI-Nspire CAS—Note: The TI-Nspire (non-CAS) is permitted.
  - ~ Hewlett-Packard: HP Prime, HP 48GII, and all model numbers that begin with HP 40G, HP 49G, or HP 50G
  - ~ Casio: Algebra fx 2.0, fx-CP400 (ClassPad 400), ClassPad 300, ClassPad 330, and all model numbers that begin with CFX-9970G
- Handheld, tablet, or laptop computers, including PDAs
- Electronic writing pads or pen-input devices—Note: The Sharp EL 9600 is permitted
- Calculators built into cell phones or any other electronic communication devices
- Calculators with a typewriter keypad (letter keys in QWERTY format)—Note: Letter keys not in QWERTY format are permitted.

## Calculators on Test Day

Examinees are responsible for making sure their calculator is working and has reliable batteries. Examinees may bring a backup calculator and extra batteries to the test. Your school may also supply calculators. Examinees will not be allowed to share calculators during testing.

Testing staff will check calculators to verify they are permitted, and they will monitor examinees' use of their calculators to ensure that the examinees:

- Use a calculator only during the math test
- Use a backup calculator only after it has been checked by a member of the testing staff
- Do not share a calculator
- Do not store test materials in the calculator's memory

If an examinee's calculator has characters one inch high or larger, or a raised display, testing staff may seat the examinee where no other test taker can see the calculator.