

WEB HOMEWORK AT MATHCLASS.ORG

Students who are registered for MA 109, MA 123, MA 113, MA 162 and some sections of MA 110, MA 114 and MA 213 will use homework at `mathclass.org`. Students enrolled in these classes will have an account created for them. **PLEASE DO NOT CREATE AN ACCOUNT UNLESS ASKED TO DO SO BY YOUR INSTRUCTOR.** If you create an account, you will not be able to add your class to this account. You may not use your account from last semester. All accounts are deleted at the end of the semester and new accounts are set up.

Each student who is using web homework, should log in to their account, carry out the account maintenance chores below and print out their first homework during the first few days of the semester. The Department will offer assistance in the Mathskeller (CB 063) from 11am–4pm the first Thursday, Friday and Monday of the semester to help with log in problems.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

You will access `mathclass.org` through a browser. We recommend that you use Firefox web browser (version 2.0 or later) on a windows machine. Additional software is needed to view web homework in Internet Explorer 7. We have tested `mathclass.org` on Windows computers in the Windows computer labs listed at <http://www.uky.edu/UKIT/clabs.htm> and the Mathskeller. If you note a problem at one of these labs, please submit a help request through `mathclass.org`. We are not able to provide support for computers in others labs or owned by individuals.

Please visit the Start up guide from the link on the main page at `mathclass.org` for more information.

TWO METHODS FOR LOGINS

Active directory logins: The preferred method for logins to `mathclass.org` is with the UK Active Directory user name and password. This is also the user name and password that are used to access other systems including `myuk.uky.edu` and `exchange.uky.edu`. Thus, if your user name is `skova01`, you will enter `ad\skova01` as the user name and the password for your Active Directory account. Note that `mathclass.org` will require you to include the prefix `ad\` while other sites on campus may not. Students who are in the Medical Center domain should use the prefix `mc\`.

Student identification number and mathclass.org password: Students may also log in using their eight digit student identification number as a username and a password that is local to `mathclass.org`. The initial password will be `u$654321` where `654321` are the last six digits of your student identification number. The student identification cards have a nine digit number that always begins with a 9. The student identification number that we use are the eight digits which appear after the “9”. Most student identification numbers will begin with a 1.

You may also use the email address for your account as a username. To find this address, visit the link **Don't know which User Name or e-mail to use?**. This link will also allow you to look up your Active Directory user name.

Warning: You may have a different password for each login method. However, both methods give you access to the same account.

ACCOUNT MAINTENANCE

There are several account maintenance chores you should carry out. Even if you do not plan to use the student identification number/mathclass.org password, please log in once by this method and change the initial password and security question. Otherwise, a malicious user could obtain access to your account. To change this password, you must log in with your student identification number and visit the link **Maintain your account** in the yellow box at the top of the page. Please check that the email address for your account is correct and change the email address, if necessary. Please be sure to log out after you complete session at **mathclass.org**.

PERSONAL COMPUTERS

We have found that **mathclass.org** may be used on Windows XP and Windows Vista with the browsers Internet Explorer 7 and Firefox 2.0. Internet Explorer requires two additional plugins for mathml and svg. You will be prompted to install these plugins when you first log in to **mathclass.org**. Users of Firefox on Windows should install a collection of fonts which are available from <http://www.mozilla.org/projects/mathml/fonts>.

Owners of Macintosh computers running OSX should install additional fonts. Otherwise some homework problems will not display correctly. Instructions for installing these fonts are given in the response to first question listed in the FAQ available under the **General** category on the main menu at **mathclass.org**.

Students with a Macintosh should consider printing their homework from a Windows computer (this may be done in The Study or Mathskeller). Submission of homework on a Macintosh should not present any difficulty.

SOME PROBLEMS AND THEIR SOLUTIONS.

1. If you log in to `mathclass.org` using Internet Explorer on a computer that does not have the plugins installed, you will see an alert message asking that you install the necessary software. **IF YOU IGNORE THIS MESSAGE, YOUR HOMEWORK WILL NOT DISPLAY CORRECTLY.** The public computers in the libraries do not have the necessary software. Homework that is printed from these computers will appear to be formatted correctly, but the problems have been changed and the answer to the printed version will not be marked correct.
2. If you cannot log in with your Active Directory user name, you may check if you have the correct user name and password by logging into another system such as `myuk.uky.edu`. Recall that other systems may not require that you use the `ad\` or `mc\`.
3. If you make five failed login attempts in a thirty minute period, then you may be locked out of your account for thirty minutes.
4. During drop-add, accounts will be created on the next school day after you register for a class. Thus, if you added the class recently, your account may not be created yet. If you change sections, your account and record of homework will be moved automatically.
5. Users may reset the password for their Active Directory account by visiting <https://ukam.uky.edu/manager>. For additional help with Active Directory accounts, call the IT customer service center at 859 257 1300 or visit 111 McVey Hall.
6. If a student resets the Active Directory password, the password is reset to the initial password `u$654321` where `654321` stand for the last six digits of the student identification number. You will need to change this initial password by visiting the account manager web site before returning to `mathclass.org`. After resetting an active directory password, students will need to wait about 20 minutes before trying to change the initial password.
7. The local password that is used with your student identification number is reset to the default password at the beginning of each semester. Thus, the local password from last semester is no longer valid. Your active directory password will not change, unless it expired over the break.
8. In order to use `mathclass.org`, you browser must accept session cookies and allow pop-up windows.

9. For technical problems with `mathclass.org`, visit the link labeled **Help** at the top of most pages at `mathclass.org`. You do not need to be logged in to submit a request for help.
10. For problems with the mathematics related to the homework, speak with your instructor, teaching assistant or visit Mathskeller or the Study. You may communicate with your instructor or teaching assistant by entering a question into the box that appears below each homework problem after you submit a solution.
11. If you feel a problem was graded incorrectly, contact your instructor or teaching assistant. You may communicate with your instructor or teaching assistant by entering a question into the text box that appears below each homework problem after you submit a solution.
12. Links on the left-hand side of the `mathclass.org` home page will take you to guides for using `mathclass.org`. There is an FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) under the General section of the main floating menu in `mathclass.org`.

Advice: The problems at `mathclass.org` are similar to what you would see in a textbook. However, homework at `mathclass.org` has several advantages over traditional homework. 1) Each student is given a personalized version of the homework to encourage them to think about the solution of a problem. 2) The website handles the routine chores of checking answers and recording scores. 3) After you submit a problem, you will be given a chance to ask your instructor or a teaching assistant a question using an internal messaging system. 4) If you submit an incorrect answer, you may try again. However, no system is perfect. `mathclass.org` can tell if your answer is correct, but it cannot tell if you understand the mathematics behind your solution. Please be sure to read the textbook, attend lecture, study your notes, ask questions, and use the information gained to help you understand if each step of your solution is correct.

December 4, 2007