



July 26, 2021

CALCULATORS RECOMMENDED AT LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL

Algebra 1 – No calculator is required - any calculator is acceptable. There will be times where a student will be allowed and want to use one.

Geometry - A basic calculator will be needed, but a scientific calculator will be a huge help during the trigonometry unit.

Algebra 2 -

A scientific calculator is required.

Algebra 2 Honors - A graphing calculator is required.

Pre-Calculus and Pre-Calculus Honors ---Graphing calculators are required

Calculus - A graphing calculator is required.

Statistics - A scientific calculator is required. Graphing calculators are preferred.

Scientific Calculator

any calculator that has the following keys - sin, cos, tan, log

- most cost under \$20, the TI-30XS MultiView™ is an excellent machine for under \$16
- For additional help see: <https://education.ti.com/en/products?category=scientific-calculators> on the TI website.

Recommended Graphing Calculators (see <https://education.ti.com/en/product-resources/graphing%20course%20comparison>)

- **TI-84+ / TI-84+ CE** - can be found for around \$100
 - Advantages: built in USB port - having a display screen that is color
- **TI-89** - can be found for around \$150
 - Advantages: same as 84+ silver but with much more built-in functions and capability including a function solver and the ability to solve and simplify problems symbolically
 - Disadvantages: much more difficult to learn how to use than the others - NOT for the timid, also the 89, cannot be used on the ACT
- **TI-Nspire** - can be found for around \$120
 - Advantages: the newest model, much faster, much bigger screen, some models have a rechargeable battery pack
 - Disadvantages: cost, for calculus the TI-89 is still a bit more capable - Note the CAS versions cannot be used on the ACT

- **Numworks** - can be found for around \$75-\$100.
 - similar in performance and use to the TI-Nspire
 - Advantages: less expensive, includes a simple Python programming interface, calculations with negative values are less "quirky" than with TI calculators
 - Disadvantages: harder to find, not as many downloadable apps as the TI graphing calculators, does linear regression only and no other kinds of regression that will be performed in Algebra 2 Honors and Pre-calculus.
- **Casio Graphing Calculators** are less expensive than the TI graphing calculators but are a more difficult to use and are much more difficult to program. (Algebra 2 Honors and Calculus are the only classes where the students will be expected to program their calculators, however.)