

How to get help in Math 124/5/6

First, work ahead on homework; pretend the closing date is actually two days early.

Do NOT immediately go to a tutor if you are stuck, spend some time trying to figure it out yourself. When you go to a tutor be ready with your work out so that the tutor can clearly read what you have already attempted and can comment on your work. Our tutors will not just give you the answer, you need to show that you truly did attempt the problem. It is much more valuable to you, if the tutor can see your work and comment on how to improve the next time you see a similar problem. Here are things you should always do on your own (this can all be done in 5-10 minutes or less, you don't need to spend hours stuck on these problems, but you do need to actually attempt them on your own):

- a) Read the problem carefully (at least twice). Write down everything you are given and write down what it is that you want to find.
- b) Label all unknowns and draw a picture.
- c) Is there anything you can solve for? Do it!
- d) Think about similar problems you have seen in lecture and in the book. (Reread the lecture and the book examples).
- e) Attempt the problem again. **Check your work wherever possible** (plug in your final answer back into the start and see that things match up).
- f) Reread the question, did you answer the question in the correct form?

Write all this work, in an organized way, down on paper.

If you have done everything above and you are still stuck, then you can see out help as follows:

1. Ask questions in quiz section.
2. Ask a tutor in the Math Study Center – Comm. B-014
Mon – Thurs: 9:30am-9:30pm
Fri : 9:30am-1:30pm
Sun: 2:00pm-6:00pm
3. Ask a tutor in CLUE – Mary Gates Commons
Sun – Thurs: 7pm-midnight
4. Work in study groups with classmates, then send one group member to office hours.
5. Visit your TA's office hours.
6. Visit my office hours.
7. If you have already tried all these resources or if the issue is a technical one, you can also write me a short email.