

| Expression | <i>Mathematica</i> syntax |
|--|--|
| xy | x y (don't forget the space) |
| e | E (or use Basic Math Assistant palette) |
| π | Pi (or use Basic Math Assistant palette) |
| ∞ | Infinity (or use Basic Math Assistant palette) |
| $\sqrt{32}$ | Sqrt[32] (or use Basic Math Assistant palette) |
| $\sqrt[4]{40}$ | 40^(1/4) (or use Basic Math Assistant palette) |
| $ x - 3 $ | Abs[x-3] |
| $\sin \pi$ | Sin[Pi] |
| $\cos(x(y + 1))$ | Cos[x(y+1)] |
| $\cot\left(\frac{2\pi}{3} + \frac{3\pi}{4}\right)$ | Cot[2 Pi/3 + 3 Pi/4] |
| $\arctan 1$ | ArcTan[1] |
| $\ln 3$ | Log[3] |
| $\log_6 63$ | Log[6, 63] |
| $\log 18$ | Log10[18] |
| 2^{7y} | 2^(7y) (or use Basic Math Assistant palette) |
| e^{x-5+x^2} | E^(x-5+x^2) or Exp[x-5+x^2] (or use Basic Math Assistant palette) |
| $f(x + 3)$ (if f is a function) | f[x+3] |
| $xf(2x) - x^2f(x)$ | x f[2x] - x^2 f[x] |
| $(f \circ g)(x)$ | f[g[x]] |
| $\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} f(x)$ | Limit[f[x], x -> 4] |
| $f'(3)$ | f' [3] |
| $g'''(x)$ | g' '' [x] or D[g[x], {x, 3}] |
| $\int x^2 dx$ | Integrate[x^2, x] (or use Basic Math Assistant palette) |
| $\int_2^5 \cos x dx$ | Integrate[Cos[x], {x, 2, 5}] (or use Basic Math Assistant palette) (for decimal approximation, use NIntegrate) |
| $\sum_{k=1}^{12} f(k)$ | Sum[f[k], {k, 1, 12}] |
| $30!$ (factorial) | 30! |
| Object | keyboard shortcut |
| raised exponent | type base, then [Control]+6, then exponent |
| horizontal fraction bar | type [Control]+/, then numerator, then [Tab], then denominator |
| square root sign | [Control]+2 |

| Objective | <i>Mathematica</i> syntax |
|--|---|
| To call the preceding output | % |
| To get a decimal approximation to the preceding output | N[%] (or click numerical value) |
| Define a function $f(x) = formula$ | f[x_] = formula (one equals sign, underscore after x) |
| Generate table of values for f | Table[{x,f[x]}, {x,xmin,xmax,step}] |
| Plot the graph of $f(x) = formula$ | Plot[formula, {x,xmin,xmax}] |
| Plot multiple graphs at once | Plot[{formula,formula, ..., formula}, {x,xmin,xmax}] |
| Plot the graph of $f(x) = formula$ with range of y -values specified | Plot[formula, {x,xmin,xmax}, PlotRange -> {ymin,ymax}] |
| Plot the graph of $f(x) = formula$ with x - and y -axes on same scale | Plot[formula, {x,xmin,xmax}, PlotRange -> {ymin,ymax}, AspectRatio -> Automatic] |
| Find exact solution(s) to equation of form $lhs = rhs$ | Solve[lhs==rhs,x] (two equals signs) (works only with polynomials or other relatively “easy” equations) |
| Find decimal approx. to solutions of equation $lhs = rhs$ | NSolve[lhs==rhs,x] (two equals signs) (works only with “easy” equations) |
| Find decimal approx. to solutions of equation $lhs = rhs$ | FindRoot[lhs==rhs,{x,guess}] (two equals signs) |
| Partial fraction decomposition | Apart[] |
| Define parametric function $x = f(t), y = g(t)$ | f[t_] = {f(t),g(t)} |
| Plot graph of a set of parametric equations (after defining them as $f(t)$) | ParametricPlot[f[t], {t, -20,20}, PlotRange -> {{xmin,xmax}, {ymin,ymax}}] |