

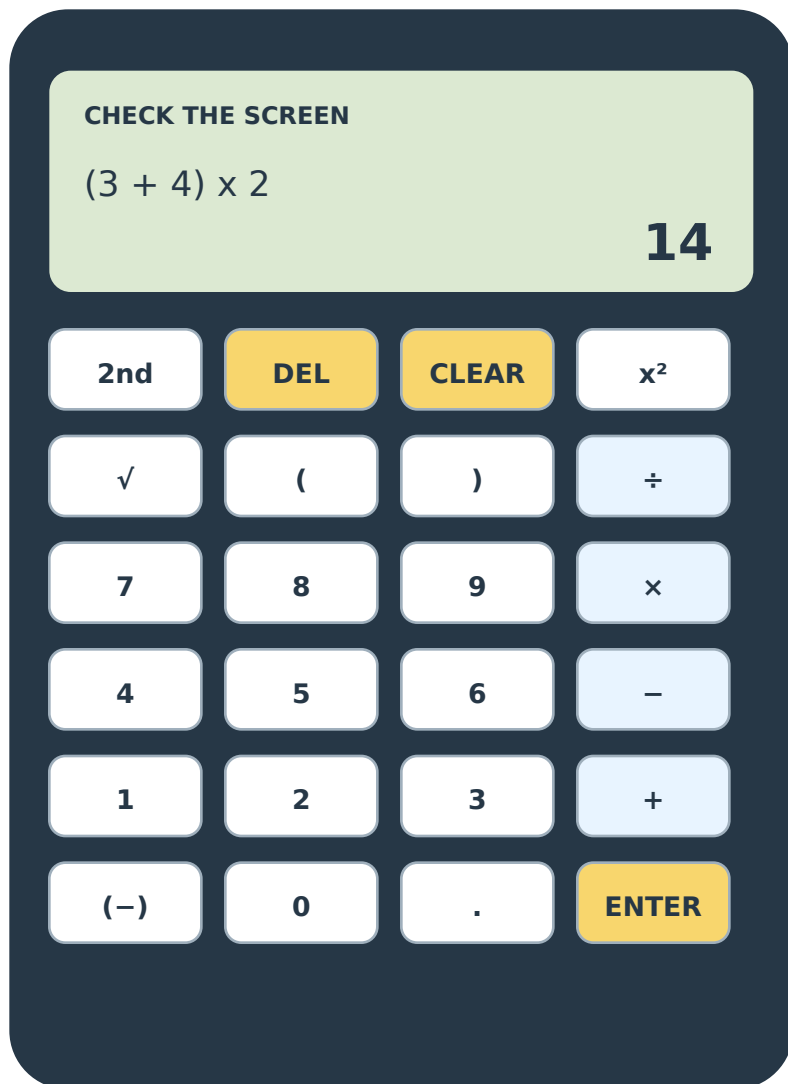
Calculator Guide

The main buttons on a scientific calculator

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Meet the Main Buttons

Button names and locations may vary. Their jobs remain mostly the same.



Before ENTER

- ✓ All numbers are correct
- ✓ Operation signs match
- ✓ Negative signs are correct
- ✓ Parentheses are paired
- ✓ Exponents have the right base

Fixing Buttons

- CLEAR** Erase the entire calculation.
- DEL** Remove one character.
- 2nd / SHIFT** Use the function above a key.
- F $\leftrightarrow$ D** Change fraction and decimal forms.

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Press the keys from left to right

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How to Enter Common Problems

NEGATIVE NUMBER

$$-6 + 9$$

Answer: 3



Use the negative key before 6.

FRACTION

$$3/4 + 1/2$$

Answer: 1.25 or 5/4



A fraction bar means divide.

EXPONENT

$$2^5$$

Answer: 32



Use the arrow if the cursor stays raised.

SQUARE ROOT

$$\sqrt{81}$$

Answer: 9



Some calculators require 81 before √.

PARENTHESES

$$(3 + 4) \times 2$$

Answer: 14



Pair every opening and closing parenthesis.

MULTI-STEP

$$5 + 2(6 - 1)$$

Answer: 15



Enter the complete expression first.

Negative or Subtraction?

(-)

Negative Sign

Describes a number below zero.

-6 Press: (-) then 6

-

Subtraction

Tells you to take one amount away.

9 - 6 Press: 9 then - then 6

If the Answer Looks Wrong

1

Compare

Match the calculator screen to the original problem.

2

Correct

Use DEL for one character or CLEAR to restart.

3

Check grouping

Look for missing signs, parentheses, or exponents.

4

Estimate

Decide whether the answer is reasonable.

THE MOST IMPORTANT HABIT

Read the problem → Enter it carefully → Check the screen → Calculate