

How to Read Mathematics

1. Survey. Look over the problems to see what types of logic they require and what basic formulae will be used. Try to make associations with practical situations in which similar problems might be encountered.
2. Questions. Looking at the first problem, think through it to be sure you understand what the unknown factor which you are to find is and what are the known facts with which you can work.
3. Solve. Work through the problem to find the unknown factor.
4. Check. Substitute the answer you have found for the unknown in the original statement and see if it makes sense. Check through the basic formula to see if it balanced with his value.
5. Repeat. Apply the same three steps to each successive problem in the assignment.
6. Review. Check over the whole assignment again to be sure you have completed all the assigned work and that your answers are reasonable. Be sure you understand the purpose of such exercise and try to think of practical applications of the principles involved in the problems.