Use of Calculators on the Mathematics Test
ACT allows the use of a calculator on the PLAN Mathematics Test (but not on any of the other tests in PLAN). Students are not required to use a calculator. All problems can be solved without a calculator. If students regularly use a calculator in their math work, they may wish to use one they are familiar with as they take the Mathematics Test. Using a more powerful, but unfamiliar, calculator is not likely to give students an advantage over using the kind they normally use.

Students may use any four-function, scientific, or graphing calculator, unless it has features described in the Prohibited list. For models on the Permitted with Modification list, they will be required to modify some of the calculator’s features.

Examples of Permitted Calculators

Examples of Prohibited Calculators

Scientific or graphing

Four-function

QWERTY keyboard

Paper tape

Calculators Permitted with Modification
The following types of calculators are permitted, but only after they are modified as noted:
- calculators with paper tape—Remove the tape.
- calculators that make noise—Turn off the sound.
- calculators with an infrared data port—Completely cover the infrared data port with heavy opaque material such as duct tape or electrician’s tape (includes Hewlett-Packard HP 38G and HP 39G series and HP 48G).
- calculators that have power cords—Remove all power/electrical cords.

Prohibited Calculators
The following types of calculators are prohibited:
- calculators with built-in computer algebra systems—Prohibited calculators in this category include:
  - Texas Instruments: All model numbers that begin with TI-89 or TI-92; and the TI-Nspire CAS—Note: The TI-Nspire (non-CAS) is permitted.
  - Hewlett-Packard: HP 48GII and all model numbers that begin with HP 40G, HP 49G, or HP 50G
  - Casio: Algebra fx 2.0, ClassPad 300, ClassPad 330, and all model numbers that begin with CFX-9970G
- handheld, tablet, or laptop computers, including PDAs
- electronic writing pads or pen-input devices—Note: The Sharp EL 9600 is permitted.
- calculators built into cell phones or any other electronic communication devices
- calculators with a typewriter keypad (letter keys in QWERTY format)—Note: Letter keys not in QWERTY format are permitted.

ACT regularly updates information about which calculators are prohibited. To be certain their calculator will be permitted on test day, students should visit www.actstudent.org/plan/tips/calculator.html or call 800.498.6481 for a recorded message.