



**Mc
Graw
Hill**
Education

ALEKS®

Student Orientation

Agenda

- 1 What is ALEKS?
- 2 Getting Started
- 3 Learning in ALEKS
- 4 Key Tips to Success
- 5 Resources



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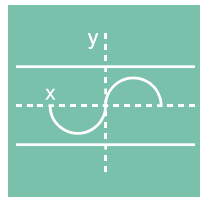
What is ALEKS?

Hello and Welcome!

This brief walkthrough is designed to help you become familiar with the ALEKS program and how it will be used in this class. It will also direct you where to go for help.

You will have regular, required assignments in ALEKS, and you can expect to spend several hours a week working on them. Just how much time you have to spend in the program will depend on how efficiently you use the ALEKS system.

Thank you!

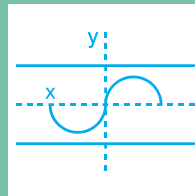


What is ALEKS?

ALEKS stands for **A**ssessment and **L**earning in **K**nowledge **S**paces. It is an individualized, adaptive learning tool that is unlike any other online program available today. Think of it as a human tutor designed to help you learn math.

ALEKS uses artificial intelligence to determine what you know, what you don't know, and what you are **most ready to learn**. ALEKS then creates a personalized learning plan that gets you to the finish line in the best possible way.

To make sure that you remember what you learn, ALEKS will check your knowledge. These Knowledge Checks are designed to *help* you, so take them seriously! Treat ALEKS well and it will treat you well.





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Getting Started

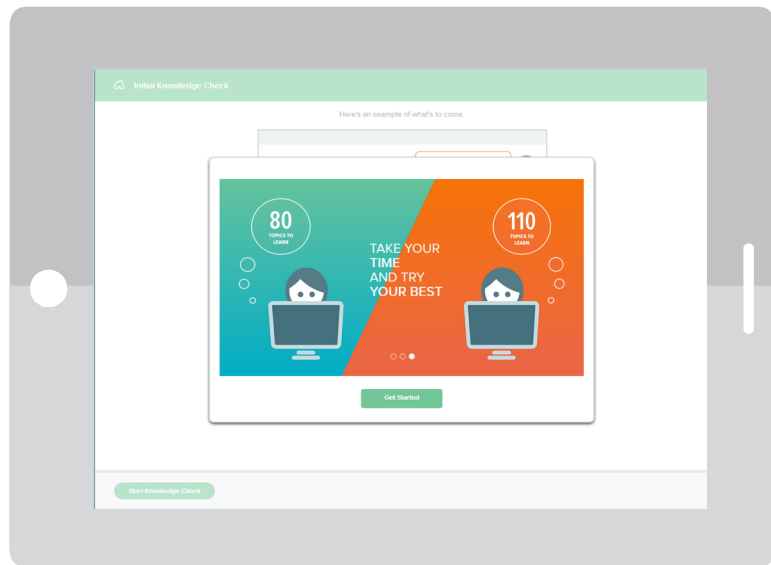
Navigating Your ALEKS Account

Click on the Menu icon in the top, left corner to access your Calendar, Gradebook, Reports, eBook, and more. You can even order a loose-leaf copy of your eBook at a significant discount!

Be sure to check out the ALEKS reports. They will help you track your time and progress, and to focus on how to get ahead.

The screenshot displays the ALEKS user interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with a 'Home' button, a close icon (X), a menu icon (three horizontal lines) highlighted with a red box, the 'ALEKS®' logo, and the course identifier 'Math 301'. Below the navigation bar is a sidebar menu with the following items: 'Learn', 'Review', 'Assignments', 'Worksheet', 'Calendar', 'Gradebook', 'Reports', 'Message Center', 'Textbook' (with a minus icon), 'E-Book', 'Order Printed Version' (highlighted with a red bar), 'Dictionary', and 'Manage My Classes'. The main content area on the right is divided into two sections. The top section, titled 'UP NEXT:', features the text 'Finding inputs and outputs of a two-step function that models a real-world' and a 'START MY PATH' button. The bottom section, titled 'WORKING TOWARD', displays 'Class Progress', '381 of 803 Topics', and 'Due: Jun 1'.

Getting Started



Once you register, you will take a brief tutorial on how to use the system. Next, you will complete an **Initial Knowledge Check**. Its purpose is to figure out what you know and don't know, so that you can begin with material you are ready to learn.

Take the ALEKS Knowledge Checks honestly and seriously so that the system can accurately measure your knowledge of course material. If you don't, you will only be giving yourself more work!

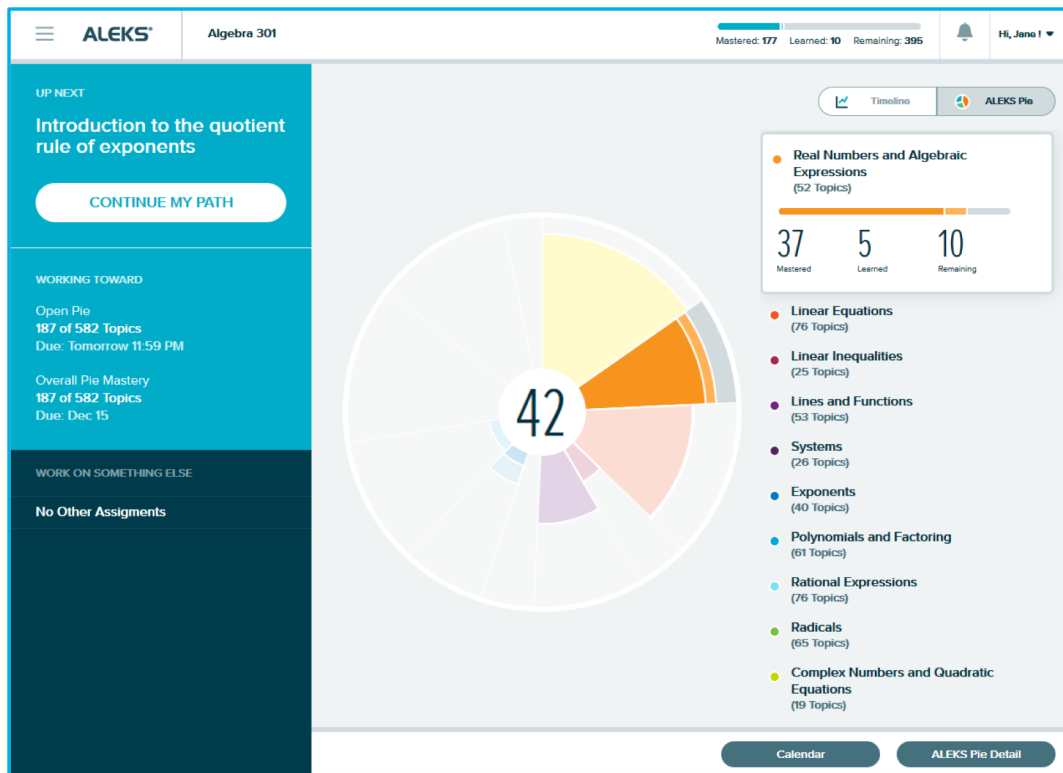
Getting Started

After you finish the Initial Knowledge Check, you will see your ALEKS Pie. This represents your current knowledge of the course. Notice that ALEKS gave you credit for some topics you already know!

Each Pie Slice has three sections:

Dark = topics mastered on a Knowledge Check
Light = topics learned in Learning Mode
Grey = Topics not learned or mastered

Click on **CONTINUE MY PATH** to begin learning.





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The background image shows a young man with dark hair wearing large headphones, sitting at a wooden desk in what appears to be a library or study hall. He is looking at a laptop screen, with his hand near his chin in a thoughtful pose. The desk has several books on it. Overlaid on the left side of the image are mathematical diagrams: a coordinate system with a vertical dashed line labeled y at the bottom, a horizontal dashed line labeled b on the left, and a curved line segment. On the laptop screen, there is a small diagram showing an arrow pointing to the right followed by the variable x .

Learning in ALEKS

Learning in ALEKS

The screenshot shows the ALEKS Learning Mode interface. The top blue header bar contains a gauge icon and the text 'EXPONENTS Introduction to the power of a product rule of exponents'. The gauge is a horizontal bar with four segments, the first of which is filled. Below the header, the page is divided into two main sections: 'QUESTION' and 'EXPLANATION'. The 'QUESTION' section asks to 'Simplify' $(4z)^3$ and to 'Write your answer without parentheses.' The 'EXPLANATION' section provides 'Method 1' and 'Method 2' for simplifying the expression. On the right side of the page, there is a vertical sidebar with three icons: a play button, a document, and an envelope. At the bottom of the page, there is a 'Practice' button.

EXPONENTS Introduction to the power of a product rule of exponents

QUESTION

Simplify.

$(4z)^3$

Write your answer without parentheses.

EXPLANATION

Method 1:
By definition, the [exponent 3](#) tells us how many times $4z$ appears in the [product](#).

$(4z)^3 = \overbrace{4z \cdot 4z \cdot 4z}^{\text{three } 4z \text{'s}}$

We can multiply to get the following.

$$\begin{aligned}(4z)^3 &= 4z \cdot 4z \cdot 4z \\ &= 4 \cdot 4 \cdot 4 \cdot z \cdot z \cdot z \\ &= 64z^3\end{aligned}$$

Note that the exponent 3 in $(4z)^3$ applies to both the 4 and the z . [More](#)

Method 2:
The method above suggests a rule called the [power of a product rule of exponents](#). It says that for any [integer](#) n , and any numbers a and b , we have the following.

$$(a \cdot b)^n = a^n \cdot b^n$$

Using the rule with the current problem, we get the following.

$$(4z)^3 = 4^3 \cdot z^3 = 64z^3$$

Practice

Once you are in Learning Mode, you will see a Lesson Page for the first topic. Read the lesson and click on **Practice** to complete the problems.

Use the resources in ALEKS to help you learn the topic. The resources are located on the right side of each Lesson Page and practice problem as icons.

The gauge in the top, right corner tracks how many correct problems you need to finish learning the topic.

Learning in ALEKS

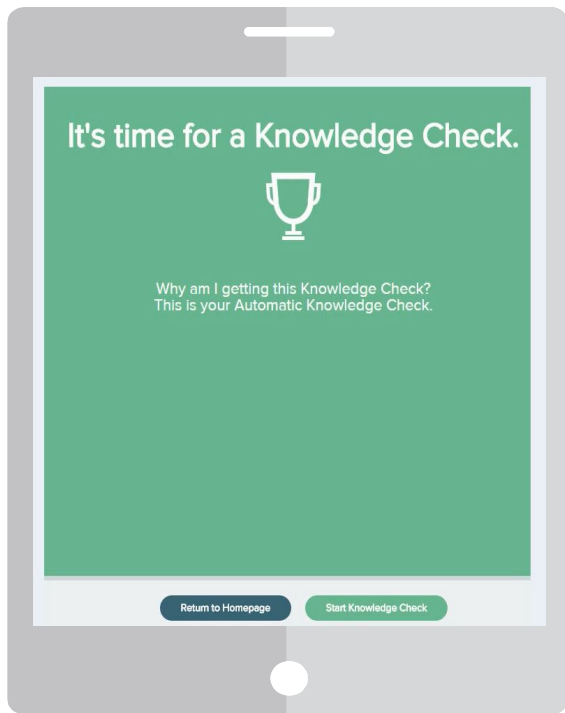
The screenshot displays the ALEKS interface. At the top, a blue header bar contains the text "Ch.1-Real Numbers and Algebraic Expressions" and "16 Topics". Below this, a carousel of topic cards is visible. The first card is titled "Linear Equations" and contains the text "Translating a phrase into a two-step expression". The second card is titled "Arithmetic Readiness" and contains the text "Power of 10: Positive exponent". The third card is partially visible and titled "Real N". Below the carousel, a "QUESTION" section is shown with the text "Translate this phrase into an algebraic expression." and "67 decreased by twice a number". Below this, an "EXPLANATION" section is shown with the text "Using n for the unknown number, the phrase twice a number is written $2n$." and "The phrase 67 decreased by twice a number is written $67 - 2n$ ". Below this, an "ANSWER" section is shown with the text "67 - 2n". At the bottom of the interface, a "Start" button is visible. A red box highlights a blue arrow icon in the top left corner of the carousel. Another red box highlights a "Filters" menu in the top right corner of the carousel. The "Filters" menu is open, showing a search bar, a "Sort by" dropdown, and a list of tags with checkboxes. The tags are: "Any Topic (20)", "Needs More Practice (0)", "Goal Topic (0)", "Unlocked (16)", "Video (8)", and "Instructor Resources (20)". The "Unlocked (16)" tag is selected. At the bottom of the filters menu, there are buttons for "Show All Topics" and "Reset".

If you want to work on another topic, open the Topic Carousel by clicking on the blue arrow in the top, left corner.

The topics that appear in the carousel are ones that you are ready to learn. Select the one you want to work on and it will switch over to the Lesson Page and practice problems for that topic.

You can filter which topics appear in the carousel by using the Filters menu in the top, right corner.

Knowledge Checks in ALEKS

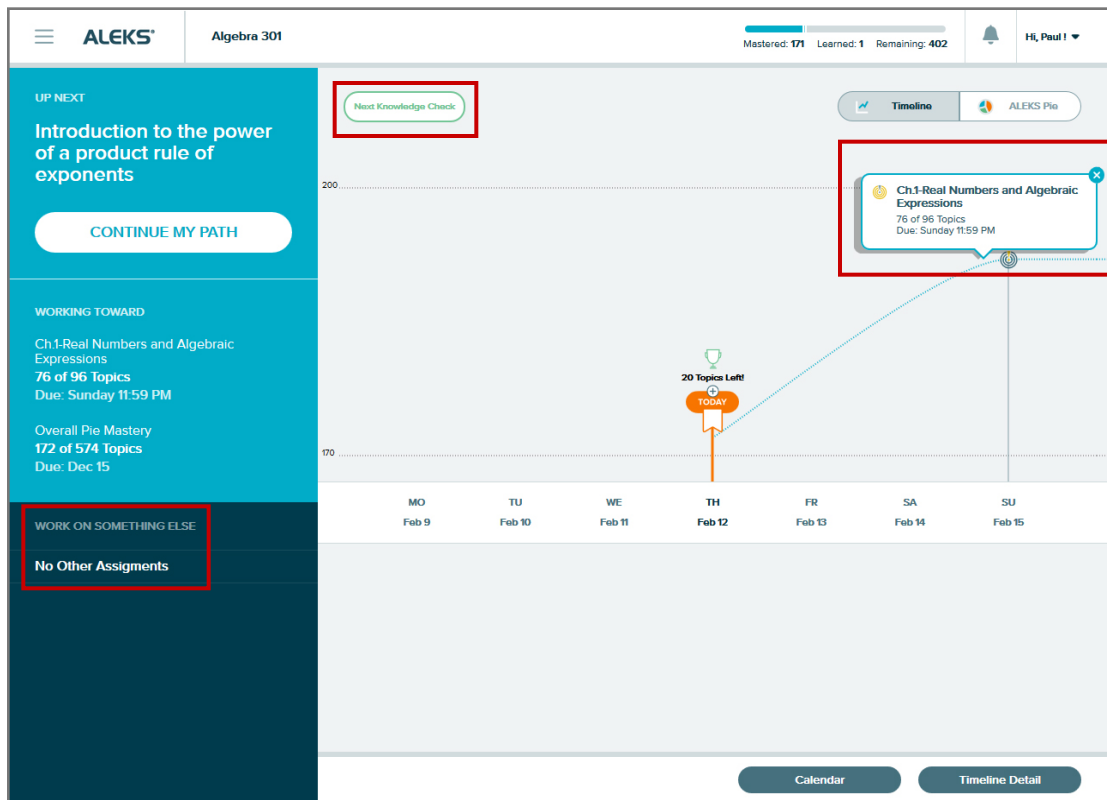


Every now and then, ALEKS will check to see if you remember what you are learning by giving you a Knowledge Check.

These knowledge checks are met to figure out what you remember and what you need to review again. They will appear periodically throughout your learning based on how your instructor setup the course.

If you take them seriously and honestly, they will work to your advantage!

The ALEKS Timeline



The ALEKS Timeline tracks your weekly progress to help you manage your study time. It shows you how much you have left to do in order to finish your assignment on time.

Click on **Next Knowledge Check** to see when your next one will occur. You can delay a Knowledge Check for up to 24 hours.

Your instructor may have extra assignments. You can access these in the **Work on Something Else** Menu.

A person is sitting on stone steps, holding a laptop. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent chart on the left side, showing a dashed line graph with data points and horizontal grid lines labeled 0.05, 0.1, and 0.15. The text 'x² with 5 degrees of freedom' is written in a script font across the middle of the image. A large white number '4' is centered within a white rectangular box. At the bottom, the text 'Key Tips to Success' is displayed in a white sans-serif font.

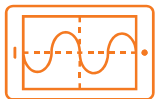
x^2 with 5 degrees of freedom

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Key Tips to Success

Key Tips to Success

Procrastination



Don't procrastinate!

Don't wait until the last minute to meet a deadline – it will be harder to catch up and you will end up having to do more work.

Logging In



Log in every day.

Be sure to log in every day. Doing some everyday will get you to the finish line faster than trying to cram.

Knowledge Checks

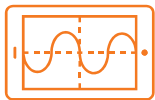


Take them seriously and honestly!

Do your best without the help of outside resources. Your results on each Knowledge Check will affect your pie.

Key Tips to Success

How to Get Help



ALEKS Support can help.

Think ALEKS made a mistake? Contact ALEKS Customer Support through your ALEKS Inbox for a quick response.

Resources



Use the ALEKS resources.

The resources in ALEKS, like the eBook, exist to help you learn and prepare for your exams. Use them!

Know ALEKS



ALEKS is more than homework.

Understanding how ALEKS works is your biggest advantage. Using it the way it was intended will help you reach your goals faster.



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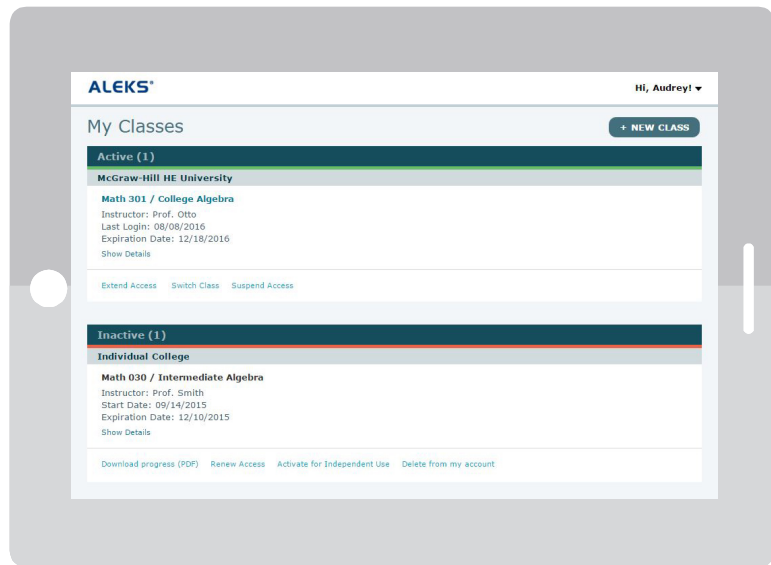
Resources

Managing Your ALEKS Account Home

Manage all of your ALEKS classes with one login through your **Student Account Home**.

You can change your account settings, sign up for new classes, buy extra time, and view previous classes.

To get to your Account Home from within a class, open the menu icon in the top, left corner and select **Manage My Classes** from the menu.



Help and Resources

Find Helpful Resources, such as printable tutorials and how-to videos, created just for students: www.aleks.com/highered/math/student_resources

Contact ALEKS Technical Support:

- Email: <http://support.aleks.com>
- Phone: (800) 258-2374
- Hours (Eastern Time):
 - Monday through Thursday, 7am – 1am
 - Friday, 7am – 9pm
 - Sunday, 4pm – 1am

