

Harold's Business Calculus
Cheat Sheet
 29 June 2018

Algebra	
Exponents	
1. Multiplication	$a^n a^m = a^{n+m}$
2. Power to a Power	$(a^n)^m = a^{nm}$
3. Zero Power	$a^0 = 1$ if $a \neq 0$
4. Power Sign Change	$a^{-n} = \frac{1}{a^n}$ and $\frac{1}{a^{-n}} = a^n$
Radicals	
5. Convert to Power	$\sqrt[n]{a} = a^{\frac{1}{n}}$
Logarithms	
6. Definition	$x = b^y \equiv y = \log_b x$
7. Powers	$\log_b x^r = r \log_b x$ $\ln x^r = r \ln x$
8. Multiplication	$\ln(xy) = \ln x + \ln y$
9. Division	$\ln\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) = \ln x - \ln y$

Derivatives	(Map to Larson's 1-pager of common derivatives)
0. Chain Rule	$\frac{d}{dx}[f \circ g(x)] = \frac{d}{dx}[f(g(x))] = f'(g(x))g'(x)$
1. Constant Multiple Rule	$\frac{d}{dx}[cf(x)] = cf'(x)$
2. Sum and Difference Rule	$\frac{d}{dx}[f \pm g] = f' \pm g'$
3. Product Rule	$\frac{d}{dx}[fg] = fg' + g f'$
4. Quotient Rule	$\frac{d}{dx}\left[\frac{f}{g}\right] = \frac{gf' - fg'}{g^2}$ (think $\frac{f}{g} = fg^{-1}$ then apply rule #3)
5. Constant Rule	$\frac{d}{dx}[c] = 0$ (think $c = cx^0 \rightarrow c \cdot 0x^{-1} = 0$ after applying rule #6)
6. Power Rule	$\frac{d}{dx}[cx^n] = cnx^{n-1}$
General Power Rule	$\frac{d}{dx}[f^n] = nf^{n-1} f'$
7. Power Rule for x	$\frac{d}{dx}[x] = 1$ (think $x = x^1 \rightarrow 1x^0 = 1$ after applying rule #6)

9. Natural Logarithm Rule	$\frac{d}{dx} [\ln x] = \frac{1}{x}$
10. Natural Exponential Rule	$\frac{d}{dx} [e^x] = e^x$

Integrals	
1. Power Rule	$\int cx^n dx = c \frac{x^{n+1}}{n+1} + C$
2. Natural Exponential Rule	$\int ce^f dx = c \frac{e^f}{f'} + C$
3. U-Substitution	$\int f(x) dx = F(x) + C$ $u = \underline{\text{part of } f(x)} \quad du = \underline{\quad} dx$

Critical Points	
First Derivative (Slope Formula)	$f'(x) = 0$ finds critical points (min. or max.) Don't forget to check the boundaries: $f(a)$ and $f(b)$
Second Derivative (Test for Concavity)	If $f''(x) \rightarrow +$, then cup up \cup (min.) If $f''(x) \rightarrow -$, then cup down \cap (max.)

Tangent Lines	
General Form	$ax + by + c = 0$
Slope-Intercept Form	$y = mx + b$
Point-Slope Form	$y - y_0 = m(x - x_0)$ where $m = f'(x_0)$ at point (x_0, y_0)
Calculus Form	$y = f'(c)(x - c) + f(c)$
Slope	$m = \frac{\text{rise}}{\text{run}} = \frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x} = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1} = \frac{dy}{dx} = f'(x)$

Implicit Differentiation	Example
$\frac{d}{dx} [cx^n y^m = c]$	$c[(x^n)(y^m)' + (y^m)(x^n)'] = 0$ $c[(x^n)(my^{m-1}y') + (y^m)(nx^{n-1}x')] = 0$ $cmx^n y^{m-1} y' + cny^m x^{n-1} = 0 \text{ since } x' = 1$ $cmx^n y^{m-1} y' = -cnx^{n-1} y^m$ $y' = -\frac{cnx^{n-1} y^m}{cmx^n y^{m-1}}$ $y' = -\frac{nx^{n-1} y^m}{mx^n y^{m-1}}$ $y' = -\frac{n}{m} x^{n-1-n} y^{m-(m-1)}$ $y' = -\frac{n}{m} x^{-1} y^1$ $y' = -\frac{ny}{mx}$