

# Answers to diff. quot #1

Difference Quotient  
Practice 1

Precalculus/Trig

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Period \_\_\_\_\_

Find the Difference Quotient and simplify the answer for each of the following functions.

1.  $f(x) = 3x^2 - 4x + 2$

$$\frac{3(x+h)^2 - 4(x+h) + 2 - (3x^2 - 4x + 2)}{h}$$

$$\frac{3(x^2 + 2xh + h^2) - 4x - 4h + 2 - 3x^2 + 4x - 2}{h}$$

$$\frac{3x^2 + 6xh + 3h^2 - 4x - 4h + 2 - 3x^2 + 4x - 2}{h}$$

$$\frac{3h^2 + 6xh - 4h}{h} = 6x + 6h - 4$$

2.  $f(x) = \sqrt{3x - 5}$

$$\frac{\sqrt{3(x+h) - 5} - \sqrt{3x - 5}}{h}$$

NOTE:

$$(a+b)(a-b) = a^2 - b^2$$

$$(\sqrt{3x+3h-5} - \sqrt{3x-5})(\sqrt{3x+3h-5} + \sqrt{3x-5})$$

$$h(\sqrt{3x+3h-5} + \sqrt{3x-5})$$

$$\frac{3x + 3h - 5 - (3x - 5)}{h(\sqrt{3x+3h-5} + \sqrt{3x-5})} =$$

$$\frac{3}{\sqrt{3x+3h-5} + \sqrt{3x-5}}$$

3.  $f(x) = \frac{5}{3x-2}$

$$\frac{(3x-2) \cancel{5}}{(3x-2)(3(x+h)-2)} - \frac{5}{3x-2} \frac{(3(x+h)-2)}{(3(x+h)-2)}$$

$$\frac{15x - 10 - 15x - 15h + 10}{(3x-2)(3x+3h-2)}$$

$$\frac{h}{h(3x-2)(3x+3h-2)} = \frac{-15}{(3x-2)(3x+3h-2)}$$

4.  $f(x) = 2x^2 - 3x - 5$

$$\frac{2(x+h)^2 - 3(x+h) - 5 - 2x^2 + 3x + 5}{h}$$

$$\frac{2(x^2 + 2xh + h^2) - 3x - 3h - 2x^2 + 3x + 5}{h}$$

$$\frac{2x^2 + 4xh + 2h^2 - 3x - 3h - 2x^2 + 3x + 5}{h}$$

$$\frac{4xh + 2h^2 - 3h^2}{h}$$

$$\frac{4x + 2h - 3}{4x + 2h - 3}$$

5.  $f(x) = \sqrt{4x+3}$

$$\frac{\sqrt{4(x+h)+3} - \sqrt{4x+3}}{h}$$

$$\frac{(\sqrt{4x+4h+3} - \sqrt{4x+3})(\sqrt{4x+4h+3} + \sqrt{4x+3})}{h(\sqrt{4x+4h+3} + \sqrt{4x+3})}$$

$$h(\sqrt{4x+4h+3} + \sqrt{4x+3})$$

$$4x + 4h + 3 - 4x - 3$$

$$\frac{4h}{h(\sqrt{4x+4h+3} + \sqrt{4x+3})}$$

$$\frac{4}{\sqrt{4x+4h+3} + \sqrt{4x+3}}$$

6.  $f(x) = \frac{3}{2x+5}$

$$= \frac{\cancel{3}}{2(x+h)+5} - \frac{3}{2x+5}$$

$$\frac{3(2x+5) - 3(2x+2h+5)}{(2x+5)(2x+2h+5)}$$

$\cancel{h}$

$$\frac{6x + 15 - 6x - 6h - 15}{(2x+5)(2x+2h+5)}$$

$$\frac{-6h}{(2x+5)(2x+2h+5)}$$