

Goal: Make composite functions.



Warm Up:

Questions

1. Is the father of your mother the same as the mother of your father? Explain.
2. Is the sum of the squares of 4 and 5 the same as the square of the sum of 4 and 5? Show work.

Activity: Math Puzzle

- a. Using numbers, write down the day ____ and month ____ of your birthdate
- b. Double the day _____
- c. Multiply by ten _____
- d. Add 73 _____
- e. Multiply by 5 _____
- f. Add the number of the month _____
- g. Subtract 365 _____

What do you notice about the final answer? Why will it always work?

Each step can be called a function, but if you put it all together as *one* function, you get the same result. This is called the _____.

Definition of Composite Function

Suppose f and g are functions. The _____ of g with f , written _____ is the function defined by

$$(g \circ f)(x) = g(f(x)).$$

The domain of $g \circ f$ is the set of values of x in the domain of f for which $f(x)$ is in the domain of g .

Practice 2: Let f and g be defined by $f(x) = x^2$ and $g(x) = \frac{1}{3x+1}$.

- Derive a formula for $(f \circ g)(x)$.
- Give a simplified formula for $(g \circ f)(x)$.
- Verify that $f \circ g \neq g \circ f$ by graphing.

Finding the Domain of a Composite Function

“The domain of $g \circ f$ is the set of values of x in the domain of f for which $f(x)$ is in the domain of g .” What?

Example 3: Let f and g be defined by $f(m) = \sqrt{m}$ and $g(m) = \frac{2}{m-3}$.

Find the domain of $g \circ f$. Then find the domain of $f \circ g$.

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Practice 3: Let f and g be defined by $f(x) = x^2$ and $g(x) = \frac{1}{3x+1}$. Find the domain of $g \circ f$. Then find the domain of $f \circ g$.

Composition of Transformations

Because transformations are functions, they can be composed and they are not commutative.

Example 4: Let $S : (x, y) \rightarrow (2x, y)$ and $T : (x, y) \rightarrow (x + 4, y - 3)$.

- a. Describe S and T in words.

- b. Write a formula for $(T \circ S)(x, y)$ and describe in words.

- c. Write a formula for $(S \circ T)(x, y)$ and describe in words.

Summary: