Using the Windows 7 Calculator

Opening Calculator

[Start] – Calculator
Or
[Start] – All Programs – Accessories – Calculator

Switching to Scientific Mode

Click View and select Scientific

Order of Operations

Remember to perform operations in order of their importance:

PEMDAS: Parentheses, Exponents, Multiplication, Division, Addition, Subtraction

http://www.purplemath.com/modules/orderops.htm

This is important for using the calculator, otherwise you could get the wrong answer

Rounding

Do not round your answers until you have your final solution!!

Not doing so could give you an incorrect answer
**Exponents**

Button on Calculator: \( x^y \)

It means you multiply a number \( x \) by itself \( y \) times

**Examples:**

\[
4^2 = 4 \times 4 = 16 \\
3^4 = 3 \times 3 \times 3 \times 3 = 81 \\
1.05^3 = 1.05 \times 1.05 \times 1.05 = 1.157625
\]

**Calculator Example:** \( 3^4 = 81 \)

In the calculator: \( 3, x^y, 4, = \)
Yields: 81

**Reciprocal**

Button on Calculator: \( 1/x \)

This takes a number \( x \) and makes it \( 1/x \) (one divided by \( x \))

**Examples:**

\[
1/2 = 0.5 \\
1/4 = 0.25 \\
1/100 = 0.01
\]

**Calculator Example 1:** \( 1/2 = 0.5 \)

In the calculator: \( 2, 1/x, \)
Yields: \( \frac{1}{2} \) or 0.5

**Calculator Example 2:** \( 1/3 = 0.3333... \)

In the calculator: \( 3, 1/x, \)
Yields: \( \frac{1}{3} \) or 0.3333...

**Calculator Example 2:** \( 1/1.05 = 0.95238... \)

In the calculator: \( 3, 1/x, \)
Yields: \( \frac{1}{1.05} \) or 0.95238...
Copying and Pasting Numbers

This is very useful for complicated formulas.

Hold the cursor over the number,
Right-click
select “Copy”

You can enter in copied numbers using “Paste”

You can also use Notepad to paste values if you need them later.

Example: \( \frac{4000}{(1 + \frac{0.07}{2})^6} \) [rounded to the nearest hundredth]

First, we calculate the bottom portion: \((1 + \frac{0.07}{2})^6\)

Start with inside the parentheses:
\[
1 + 0.07 / 2 = 1 + 0.035
\]
\[
= 1.035 \quad \text{(Remember: calculate multiplication and division first!)}
\]

Now raise it to the power 6:
\[
1.035^6 = 1.229255326344515625
\]

Copy this number (right-click, Copy)

Next, we just do 4000 divided by the number:

(1) Enter ‘4000’ then click \( / \)
(2) Move cursor to screen, right-click, and select ‘Paste’
(3) Click ‘=’

Rounding the answer to the nearest hundredth decimal, we get: 3254.00