

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 assist you with the registration process and 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 will depend critically on how efficiently you use the ALEKS system.



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

ALEKS uses artificial intelligence to determine what you know, what you don't know, and more importantly, what you are **most ready to learn**. The system will then create an individualized learning plan tailored to your specific "knowledge state," which is all the topics you know already and those that you are ready to learn next.

To ensure that you retain what you learn, ALEKS will periodically assess you. These assessments are designed to *help* you in the long run, so take them seriously! ALEKS has been around for a long time and is a trustworthy system. Treat it well and it will treat you well.

Over the course of the term, you will be required to work in ALEKS to:

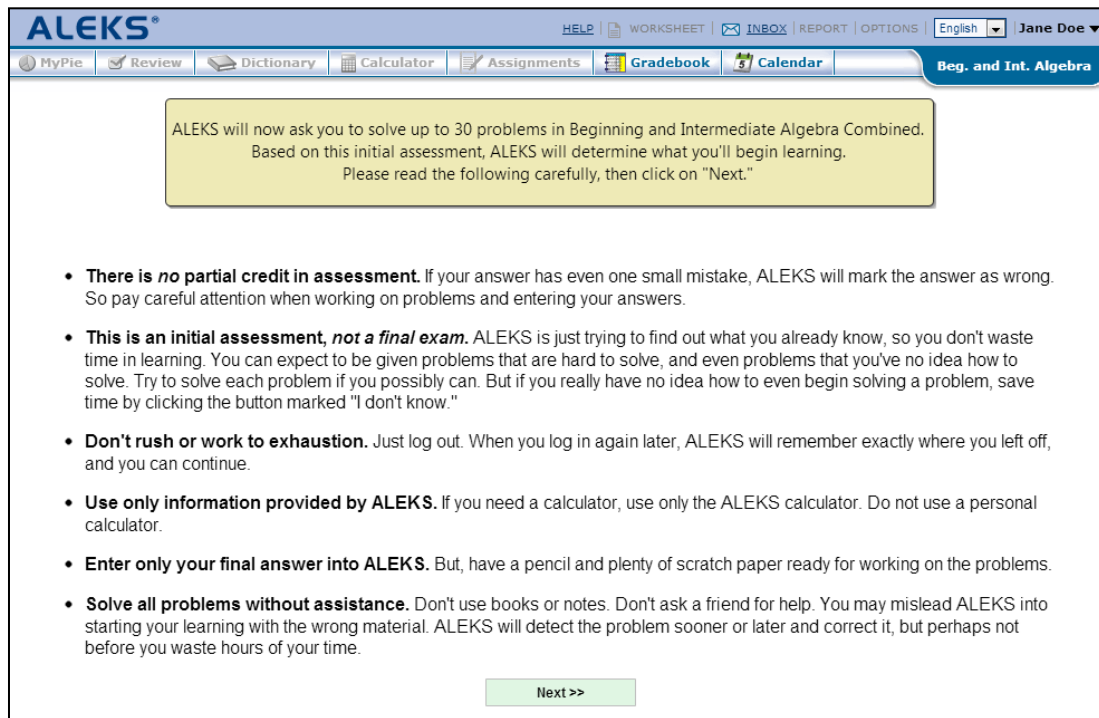
- Master new concepts in *Learning Mode*
- Complete periodic *ALEKS Assessments*



Once you register with ALEKS, you will take a brief tutorial on how to navigate the system and enter your answers.

Next, you will complete your Initial Assessment. The purpose of the Initial Assessment is to determine what you know and don't know, so that you can begin with the material that you are most ready to learn.

It is CRUCIAL that you complete ALEKS assessments honestly and to the best of your ability so that the system can accurately gauge your true knowledge of course material. If you don't, you will only be giving yourself more work!



The screenshot shows the ALEKS web interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the ALEKS logo, a user profile for Jane Doe, and links for HELP, WORKSHEET, INBOX, REPORT, and OPTIONS. Below this is a secondary navigation bar with icons for MyPie, Review, Dictionary, Calculator, Assignments, Gradebook, and Calendar. The current course is identified as 'Beg. and Int. Algebra'. A yellow message box in the center reads: 'ALEKS will now ask you to solve up to 30 problems in Beginning and Intermediate Algebra Combined. Based on this initial assessment, ALEKS will determine what you'll begin learning. Please read the following carefully, then click on "Next."' Below the message box is a list of six instructions for the assessment, and a 'Next >>' button at the bottom.

ALEKS will now ask you to solve up to 30 problems in Beginning and Intermediate Algebra Combined. Based on this initial assessment, ALEKS will determine what you'll begin learning. Please read the following carefully, then click on "Next."

- **There is no partial credit in assessment.** If your answer has even one small mistake, ALEKS will mark the answer as wrong. So pay careful attention when working on problems and entering your answers.
- **This is an initial assessment, not a final exam.** ALEKS is just trying to find out what you already know, so you don't waste time in learning. You can expect to be given problems that are hard to solve, and even problems that you've no idea how to solve. Try to solve each problem if you possibly can. But if you really have no idea how to even begin solving a problem, save time by clicking the button marked "I don't know."
- **Don't rush or work to exhaustion.** Just log out. When you log in again later, ALEKS will remember exactly where you left off, and you can continue.
- **Use only information provided by ALEKS.** If you need a calculator, use only the ALEKS calculator. Do not use a personal calculator.
- **Enter only your final answer into ALEKS.** But, have a pencil and plenty of scratch paper ready for working on the problems.
- **Solve all problems without assistance.** Don't use books or notes. Don't ask a friend for help. You may mislead ALEKS into starting your learning with the wrong material. ALEKS will detect the problem sooner or later and correct it, but perhaps not before you waste hours of your time.

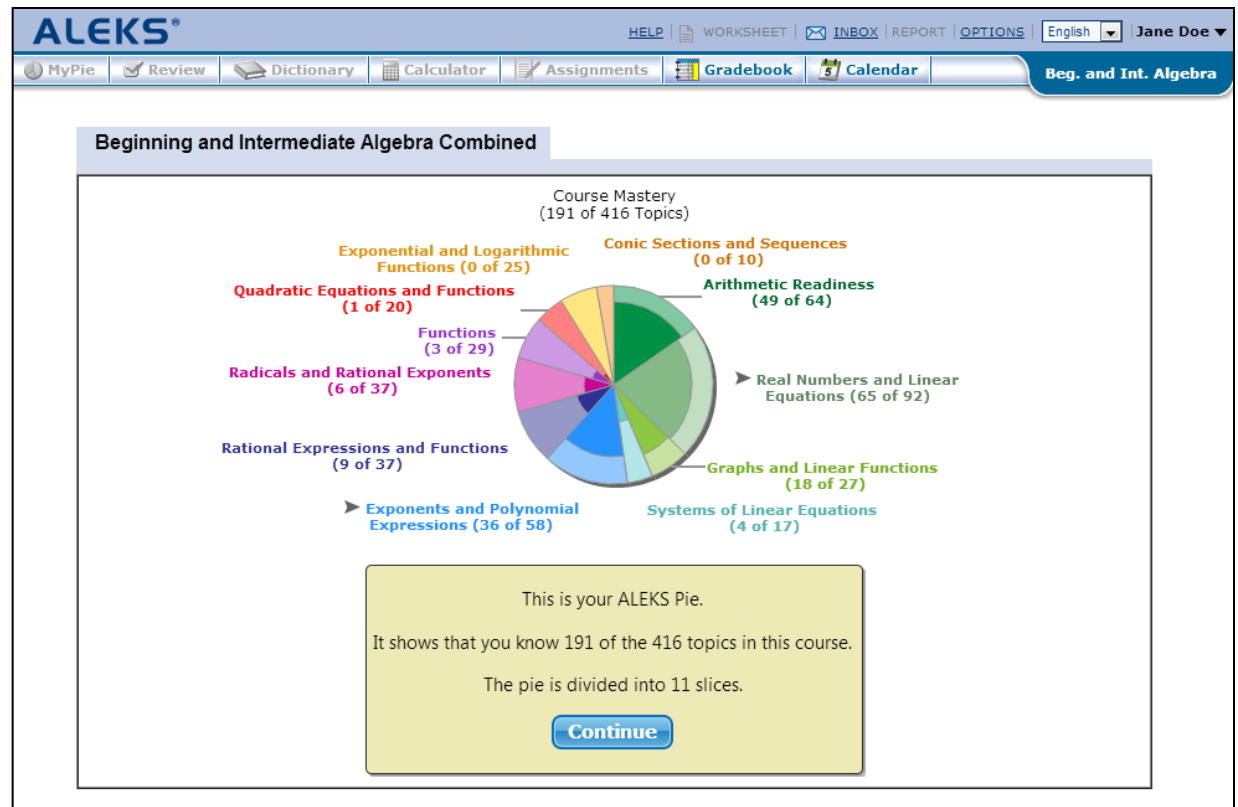
Next >>



After you finish the Initial Assessment, you will see your ALEKS Pie Chart. The pie chart represents your current knowledge of the course material. Notice that ALEKS has assessed that you already know some of the material!

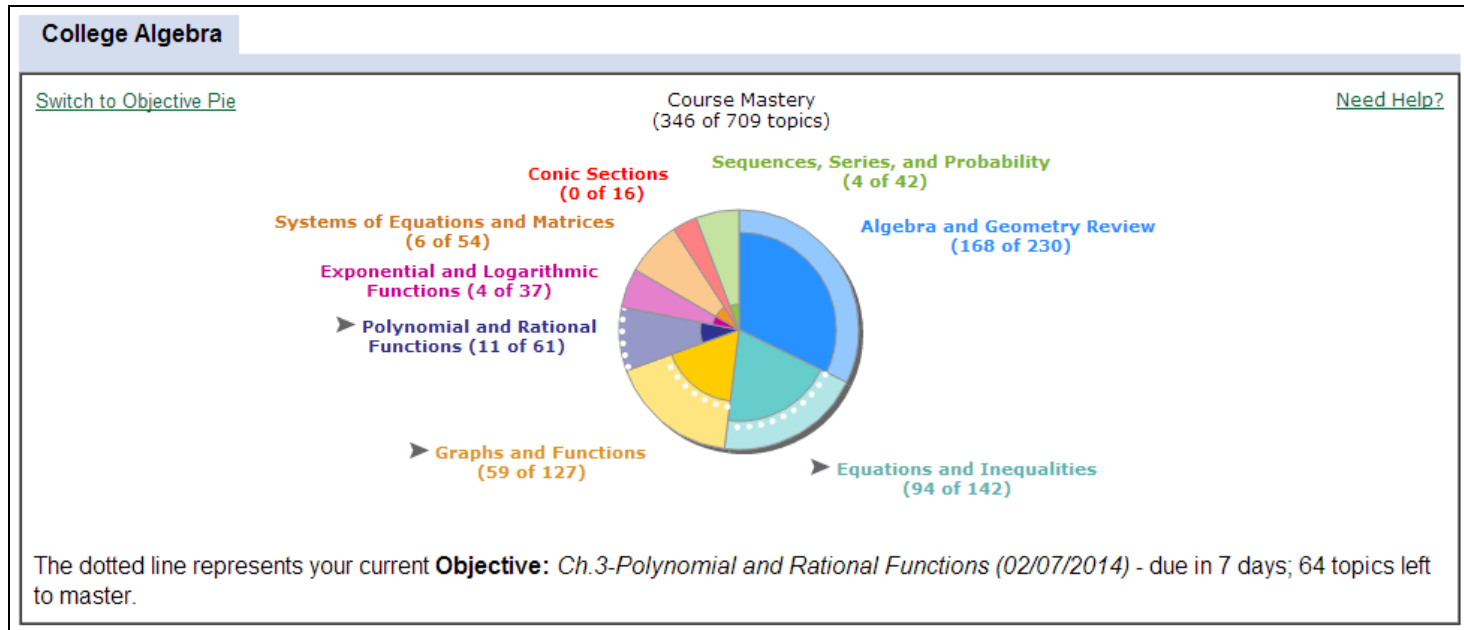
The dark portion of each slice shows what you already know, and the light portion of each slice represents what you have left to learn. The topics that you are **most ready to learn** are available in the pie slices.

As you master new topics in the Learning Mode, the dark portion of the pie slices will grow. Your goal is to fill in your pie as completely as possible by the end of the term.



To stay on track in this class, you will be required to complete Intermediate Objectives throughout the term. Think of these Objectives as periodic goals for learning the material; the more you procrastinate, the more work you give yourself!

The white dotted line in each pie slice represents your current Objective. Fill in the pie slice up to the dotted line in order to complete the Objective. Click on the **Switch to Objective Pie** link to see just the topics for the current Objective (so you can focus on getting that grade!).



Pay close attention to due dates!

You will work in Learning Mode to master new topics. Hover your mouse over a pie slice and select a topic to learn. You will only see the topics that you are ready to learn. As you learn topics, the dark portion of the pie slices will grow and more topics will become available.

Start with the slices that have white dots. These are where your current Objective goal topics are located. If there are no topics available in a slice, select another slice.

The **Review** tab is where you can go to practice topics you've learned in the pie, or were given credit for on the Initial Assessment.

ALEKS® HELP WORKSHEET INBOX REPORT OPTIONS English Jane Doe

MyPie Review Dictionary Calculator Assignments Gradebook Calendar Beg. and Int. Algebra

Move your mouse to a pie slice to see what you are ready to learn. Then click on any available topic.

Beginning and Intermediate Algebra Combined

MyPie Course Mastery (192 of 416 Topics) [Need Help?](#)

Topic	Progress
Course Mastery	192 of 416 Topics
Exponential and Logarithmic Functions	0 of 25
Conic Sections and Sequences	0 of 10
Arithmetic Readiness	49 of 64
Real Numbers and Linear Equations	66 of 92
Graphs and Linear Functions	18 of 27
Systems of Linear Equations	4 of 17
Radicals and Rational Exponents	6 of 37
Functions	3 of 29
Quadratic Equations and Functions	1 of 20

Exponents and Polynomial Expressions [X]

- Properties of Exponents
- Evaluating expressions with exponents of zero
- Quotient rule with negative exponents: Problem type 1
- Understanding the power rule of exponents

The dotted line represents your current **Objective**: Chapter 2 (01/28/2013) - due in 3 days; 7 topics left to master

After you select a topic, you will work on several problems that will help you learn the topic. If you know how to solve the problem, do your work on paper and input your final answer. ALEKS will tell you if you answered correctly or not.

The screenshot shows the ALEKS interface for a problem titled "Translating a sentence into a two-step expression". The problem asks to translate the phrase "The product of seven less than a number and 15.1" into an algebraic expression using the variable n . The solution provided is $15.1(n - 7)$. The interface includes a navigation bar with options like MyPie, Review, Dictionary, Calculator, Assignments, Gradebook, and Calendar. There is also a "Practice" button at the bottom.

ALEKS® HELP WORKSHEET INBOX REPORT OPTIONS English Jane Doe

MyPie Review Dictionary Calculator Assignments Gradebook Calendar **Beg. and Int. Algebra** Print

Translating a sentence into a two-step expression

Translate this phrase into an [algebraic expression](#).

The product of seven less than a number and 15.1

Use the variable n to represent the unknown number.

Click on the following for more information:
"Product" and "Sum".

Using n for the unknown number, the phrase *seven less than a number* is written $n - 7$.

The phrase *the product of seven less than a number and 15.1* is written $(n - 7) \cdot 15.1$.
It could also be written $15.1(n - 7)$.

Here is the answer.

$15.1(n - 7)$

Practice

Additional Resources

Beginning and Intermediate Algebra, 2nd Ed.
Messersmith

Chapter 2: Variables and Exponents

[Chapter 2 - PDF \[9.4 M\]](#)

Section 2.1: Simplifying Expressions

[Exercise Video 4](#)

[Supplementary Resources](#)

If you need help with the problem, click on the **Explain** button to see:

- A detailed tutorial on how to do the problem
- Links to the ALEKS Dictionary to help you with math terms and concepts
- Additional resources such as exercise videos, and a link to your textbook

Click on the **Practice** button when you are ready to practice more problems.

Once you have answered enough problems for the topic correctly, ALEKS will tell you that the problem has been “added to your pie.”

Click on the **Done** button to return to your pie. You will then see your overall course mastery updated, and the pie slice you were working in will also be updated.

The screenshot shows the ALEKS interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'ALEKS®' on the left and 'HELP | WORKSHEET | INBOX | REPORT | OPTIONS | English | Jane Doe' on the right. Below this is a secondary bar with icons for 'MyPie', 'Review', 'Dictionary', 'Calculator', 'Assignments', 'Gradebook', and 'Calendar', followed by the course title 'Beg. and Int. Algebra'. The main content area is titled 'Translating a sentence into a two-step expression'. It contains the instruction 'Translate this phrase into an algebraic expression.' followed by the phrase 'Two more than $\frac{2}{3}$ of Craig's age'. Below this, it says 'Use the variable c to represent Craig's age.' The 'Answer:' field contains the expression $\frac{2}{3}c+2$. At the bottom of the main area are two buttons: 'Done' and 'More Practice'. To the right of the main area is a yellow box with a green border containing a message: 'Very Good! You seem to have learned this question. To practice it again click on "More Practice." Otherwise, click on "Done" to return to your pie.'

Please Note: At regular intervals, you will be assigned an **ALEKS** Assessment to ensure that you are retaining what you are learning. If you do not demonstrate mastery of a topic on an assessment, it will transition back to the list of topics that you need to learn so that you can work on it again. **Take the assessments seriously and they will benefit your learning!**



In addition to working in your pie and completing Objectives, your instructor may have assigned additional ALEKS assignments.

ALEKS® HELP WORKSHEET INBOX REPORT OPTIONS English Jane Doe

MyPie Review Dictionary Calculator **Assignments** Gradebook Calendar Beg. and Int. Algebra

Beginning and Intermediate Algebra Combined

MyPie [Need Help?](#)

Course Mastery (193 of 416 Topics)

Topic	Progress
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Graphs and Linear Functions	18 of 27
Systems of Linear Equations	4 of 17
Exponents and Polynomial Expressions	36 of 58
Rational Expressions and Functions	9 of 37
Radicals and Rational Exponents	6 of 37
Functions	3 of 29
Quadratic Equations and Functions	1 of 20

▶ **Objective:** Chapter 2 (01/28/2013) - due in 3 days; 6 topics left to master

When assignments are ready for you to complete, the **Assignments** tab will activate with an orange burst icon. Click on the tab to view the assignments, along with their due dates.



ALEKS + Effort = Success in Math

- Don't wait until the last minute to meet a deadline in ALEKS – it will be harder to keep on pace and you will end up doing more work and wasting time. **Log in every day.**
- Try to solve each new problem by yourself before clicking on Explain. You will be much more aware of what exactly is confusing to you and what to focus on in the Explanation.
- **Take each assessment seriously.** Do your best work without consulting outside resources – your performance on an ALEKS assessment will affect your pie. If you aren't serious and honest during an assessment, then you will only increase your workload!
- Think ALEKS is marking your answer wrong by mistake? **Complaining to your professor won't fix it!** Contact ALEKS Customer Support through your ALEKS Inbox.
- Regular use of ALEKS will dramatically increase your performance and success – ALEKS is more than just homework; it teaches you math!



To get started in ALEKS:

Step 1: Go to www.aleks.com and click on **SIGN UP NOW!** just below the Registered Users box.

ALEKS® LOGIN | ABOUT US | CAREERS | CONTACT US | NEWS | SUPPORT | DOWNLOADS

HOME WHAT IS ALEKS? COURSE PRODUCTS HIGHER EDUCATION K-12 INDEPENDENT USE HOMESCHOOL

REGISTERED USERS

LOGIN NAME

 PASSWORD

[Forgot your login info?](#)

**NEW USER?
SIGN UP NOW!**

TO LEARN MORE:

- Take the Tour
- Begin Free Trial

WHAT'S NEW:

- Visit ALEKS at NCTM Annual Meeting
- LTI 1.1 Conformance
- ALEKS Community Now Available

HIGHER EDUCATION

Instructors - Administrators

Increase student performance and retention with individualized assessment and learning. Take control of your classroom, and save time with ALEKS' powerful learning management system.

- Free Trial
- Success Stories
- Implementations

K-12

Teachers - Administrators

Obtain individually targeted instruction with ALEKS course products correlated to all 50 states' standards. Implemented as a core or supplement, ALEKS improves learning outcomes.

- Free Trial
- Success Stories
- Implementations

INDEPENDENT USE

Parents - Students and Adult Continuing Educ. - Homeschoolers - Tutors

Learn at your own pace with ALEKS as your personal tutor. ALEKS meets your individual learning requirements, 24/7, through a full course library.

- Free Trial
- Success Stories
- Implementations
- Buy ALEKS Now



Class Information

Instructor:

Course Number:

Section Number:

Class Code: **XXXXX-XXXXX**
(provided by instructor)

Step 2: Enter the 10-character class code and click on **Continue**.

Step 3-4: Verify your enrollment information to make sure you are in the right class, and then indicate whether you have used ALEKS before.

Using ALEKS with a Class?

K-12 - Higher Education

Register here if you are a new student and need to use ALEKS with your class. To begin, enter your 10-character course code below. You should have received this code from your instructor.

Course code: - [what's this?](#)

[» Continue](#)

[I don't have a course code](#)

ALEKS®

HOME

1 Confirm Course Code	2 Account Status	3 Course Access	4 Student Information	5 Account Creation	6 Registration Complete
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Welcome to ALEKS!

Have you used ALEKS before?

I have never used ALEKS before or I do not have an ALEKS login name.

I have an ALEKS login name.

[I forgot my login information](#)

[» Continue](#)

Step 5: Enter your 20-character ALEKS Access Code. If you do not have an access code, you can purchase one online by clicking [purchase an access code online](#).
Be sure your access code will accommodate the length of your class

ALEKS® HOME

1 Confirm Course Code 2 Account Status **3 Course Access** 4 Student Information 5 Account Creation 6 Registration Complete

Enter Your Access Code

If you have a 20-character access code, enter it below.

If you do *not* have an access code, you can [purchase an access code online](#). If you have already purchased an access code online, you can find the code on the receipt that was e-mailed to you.

Access Code: - - - [what's this?](#)

Step 6: If you are new to ALEKS, then complete the registration steps to create an ALEKS account. If you are an existing ALEKS student, simply verify your email address.



Managing your ALEKS Account Home

Your Account Home allows you to easily manage all of your ALEKS classes with one login. You can change your email and password, sign up for new classes, suspend or extend access, and view previous classes. To return to your Account Home from within an ALEKS class, click on your name in the top, right corner and select **Account home** from the menu.

ALEKS® Jane Doe ▼

Welcome back, Jane!

Click on the name of one of your active classes to continue working on ALEKS or click on "Sign up for a new class" to enroll in a new class.

[Sign up for a new class](#)

ACTIVE (1)

Individual College

[Beginning and Intermediate Algebra Combined / Math 301](#) Actions ▼

Instructor: **Prof. Smith**
Last Login: **01/25/2013**
Expiration Date: **02/15/2013**
[Show more](#)

INACTIVE (0)

There are no inactive classes.



**For detailed instructions on ALEKS registration
and managing your Account Home, visit:**

http://www.aleks.com/highered/math/Higher_Ed_Student_Registration.pdf



ALEKS Technical Support:

- Hours (Eastern Time):
 - Sunday, 4pm – 1am
 - Monday – Thursday, 7am – 1am
 - Friday, 7am – 9pm
- Contact Support: <http://support.aleks.com>
- Visit: www.aleks.com/support
 - FAQs
 - User Guides
 - System Requirements
 - Troubleshooting

