

Composition of Functions.

9.16.15

A ***composition of functions*** is when one function operation uses the output from one function as the input of a second function.

Composition of Functions

The composition of functions f and g is notated

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

The domain of $(f \circ g)(x)$ is all values of x in the domain of g such that $g(x)$ is in the domain of f .

$$\begin{aligned}f(x) &= x + 2 \\f(3) &= (3) + 2 \\f(x + 2) &= (x + 2) + 2 \\f(g(x)) &= (g(x)) + 2\end{aligned}$$

I Try:

Given $f(x) = x + 2$ and $g(x) = x^2$

Solve for $(f \circ g)(x)$

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Given | $f(x) = x + 2$ $g(x) = x^2$ Solve for $f(g(x))$ |
| Set up the composition | $f(g(x)) = g(x) + 2$ |
| Simplify | $f(x^2) = x^2 + 2$ |

I Try:

Given $f(x) = x + 2$ and $g(x) = x^2$

Solve for $(g \circ f)(x)$

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Given | $f(x) = x + 2$ $g(x) = x^2$ Solve for $g(f(x))$ |
| Set up the composition | $g(f(x)) = (f(x))^2$ |
| Simplify | $g(x + 2) = (x + 2)^2$ $= (x + 2)(x + 2)$ $= x^2 + 2x + 2x + 4$ $= x^2 + 4x + 4$ |

We Try:

Given $f(x) = 3x$ and $g(x) = x^2 - 1$

Solve for $(g \circ f)(x)$

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Given | $f(x) = 3x$ $g(x) = x^2 - 1$ Solve for: |
| Set up the composition | |
| Simplify | |

We Try:

Given $f(x) = 3x$ and $g(x) = 3x^2 - x$

Solve for $(f \circ g)(x)$

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Given | $f(x) = 3x$ $g(x) = 3x^2 - x$ Solve for: |
| Set up the composition | |
| Simplify | |

You Try with your partners on the whiteboards.

Right column talks, Left column writes.

Given $f(x) = -2x$ and $g(x) = x^2 + 2x$

Solve for $(f \circ g)(x)$

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Given | $f(x) = -2x$ $g(x) = x^2 + 2x$ |
| Set up the composition | |
| Simplify | |

You Try with your partners on the whiteboards.

Left column talks, Right column writes.

Given $f(x) = -2x$ and $g(x) = x^2 + 2x$

Solve for $(g \circ f)(x)$

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Given | $f(x) = -2x$ $g(x) = x^2 + 2x$ |
| Set up the composition | |
| Simplify | |

I Try:

Evaluating Composite Functions

Given $f(x) = x + 2$ and $g(x) = x^2$

Solve for $(f \circ g)(5)$

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Given | $f(x) = x + 2$ $g(x) = x^2$ Solve for $f(g(5))$ |
| Set up the composition | $f(g(x)) = g(x) + 2$ |
| Simplify | $f(x^2) = x^2 + 2$ |
| Plug in value | $f(g(5)) = 5^2 + 2$ $= 25 + 2$ $= 27$ |

I Try:

Given $f(x) = x + 2$ and $g(x) = x^2$

Solve for $(g \circ f)(5)$

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Given | $f(x) = x + 2$ $g(x) = x^2$ Solve for $g(f(5))$ |
| Set up the composition | $g(f(x)) = (f(x))^2$ |
| Simplify | $g(x + 2) = (x + 2)^2$ $= (x + 2)(x + 2)$ $= x^2 + 2x + 2x + 4$ $= x^2 + 4x + 4$ |
| Plug in Value | $g(f(5)) = 5^2 + 4(5) + 4$ $= 25 + 20 + 4$ $= 49$ |

We Try:

Given $f(x) = -x$ and $g(x) = x^2 + 1$

Solve for $(g \circ f)(-2)$

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Given | $f(x) = 3x$ $g(x) = x^2 - 1$ Solve for: |
| Set up the composition | |
| Simplify | |
| Plug in Value | |

You Try with your partners on the whiteboards.

Right column talks, Left column writes.

Given $f(x) = -2x$ and $g(x) = x^2 + 2x$

Solve for $(f \circ g)(-1)$

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Given | $f(x) = -2x$ $g(x) = x^2 + 2x$ |
| Set up the composition | |
| Simplify | |

You Try with your partners on the whiteboards.

Left column talks, Write column writes.

Given $f(x) = x + 1$ and $g(x) = -2x$

Solve for $(f \circ g)(-2)$

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Given | $f(x) = x + 1$ $g(x) = -2x$ |
| Set up the composition | |
| Simplify | |