To be successful in any math course, continual practice is a must and this comes in the form of homework. Developing good homework habits and organization is a great way to keep track of your progress and address areas of concern. Here is a list of the expectations of a typical homework assignment.

**1. Name and Date on the top of the page and a new page for each assignment**

**But why?** *This way the assignments can easily be organized according to*

*when they were finished and who did it (in case it falls on the floor).*

**2. The assignment page number and questions on the top of the first page**

**But why?** *This way you have easy access to what is expected. Also,*

*anyone else who looks at your work (like a teacher) knows where all the work is coming from and you can get credit for it.*

**3. Write down the question out of the textbook**

**But why?** *This way you don’t have to continually look at the textbook to*

*see what the question is and you’re not starting from an unknown point. It also “kick-starts” your brain because by the time you have finished writing down the question your brain has already started to think about the solution.*

**4. Solve the question showing all your work**

**But why?** *This is the homework and practice part (though this may seem*

*quite obvious). Also this is the only way that anyone looking at your work can tell whether you understand the material or not.*

**5. Check to see if your solution is correct, and when it is put a huge check mark beside it**

**But why?** *This way you know if you are doing the questions correctly and if not you can see which questions gave you difficulty. Plus when it is correct the check mark is the way you pat yourself on the back and say, “Yea, I know what I’m doing!”*

**6. Leave a blank line or draw a line to separate each question**

**But why?** *This way everything is not all clumped together and it is both easy to follow and easy to read. Plus this will make all your work seem so much neater.*

**7. Start the next question again by copying down the question from the book**

**But why?** *This way you can finish the assignment.*

Following these steps will guarantee you success in math.

Remember homework is due at the beginning of the next class so that you will be prepared for the next section, which very often builds on the concepts from the previous lesson.