




## Formulae sheet top tips

If you're sitting GCSE (9-1) Maths exams in **summer 2024** or **November 2024**, you will get a formulae sheet to use in your exams. Here are some of our tips for using the formulae sheet, both **before the exams** and **when you're sitting the exams** too!

**1** Before the exam, make sure you **practise sitting mock exams and other question papers using your formulae sheet**. This will help you to remember what is on the sheet and where on the sheet each formula is. It will also help you find out if there are any formulae you find tricky to use, so you can then practise them a bit more.

- There are different formulae sheets for Foundation tier and Higher tier. Make sure you prepare with the sheet you will be using in the exams! Speak to your teacher if you're not sure which is the right version for you.

**2** Make sure you **practise using formulae with different types of questions**. For example, make sure you practise which questions to use Pythagoras' theorem with and which questions to use the trigonometry formulae with.

- In the exam, shapes might be drawn any way up. For example, the right-angled triangle on the formulae sheet looks like , but in the exam you might be given a right-angled triangle that looks like  or . Make sure you practise labelling shapes and using the formulae when shapes are different ways up.

**3** Equally as important as knowing what is on the formulae sheet is **knowing what is not on it!**

- Make sure you still **memorise formulae you might need that aren't included on the formulae sheet**. For example, formulae for area of a rectangle, area of a parallelogram, speed and density.
- Think about whether you can use any formulae on the sheet to help you recall other formulae you need to memorise. For example, the formulae sheet includes the formula for calculating the volume of a prism. Can this help you recall the formula for the volume of a cylinder?
- Remember there are other formulae that will be given in questions instead (in the question paper itself). These include the formulae for calculating the curved surface area of a cone, the surface area of a sphere, the volume of a cone, the volume of a sphere, the volume of a pyramid, pressure and also the kinematics formulae. Make sure you have practised using these too and if you see a formula given in a question, it's a good idea to use it!

**4** In the exam, make sure you place the formulae sheet on your desk somewhere that you can see it. **Don't** hide it underneath your question paper where you might forget about it!

**5** In each exam you will get a brand new copy of the formulae sheet. This is yours to use as you wish in the exam, so **if you wish to amend it**, do so! For example, you might like to draw a quick diagram of a trapezium to help you use the area of a trapezium formula. If you prefer a formula to use a different letter for a variable than is used on the sheet, cross it out and replace it with the letter you're happier with.

- Remember though that the examiner won't look at your formulae sheet, so **don't write any question working or answers on it!** Make sure you write your working and answers in the spaces provided in the question paper only.



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