

# How to prepare for maths exams

Exam prep starts week 1



## Weekly

- Reread your lecture notes
- Make sure you understand the symbols and notations
- Add explanation if necessary and ask about things you don't understand. (Ask lecturer/tutor/at help sessions)

## Summarise

Summarise each week's notes. Include:

- new terms and their meanings  
e.g. Integers: whole numbers ..... -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, .....
- formulas; what they mean and when to use them

$$y = mx + b \quad \text{Straight line equation}$$

gradient y-intercept

- Main points
- Use colours, diagrams and examples to make it clearer

## Practice

Practice exercises should be part of your weekly routine and will help reduce the time needed to prepare for exams.

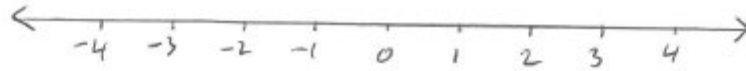
## Close to exams

- Review your summaries
- Do more practice questions
- Concentrate on the topics you find difficult.
- Complete the practice exams/revision sheets provided by your lecturer.

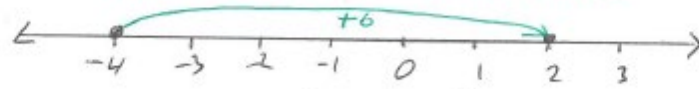




## Sample summary

Directed Numbers

Addition and Subtraction use number line  
Think - Bank balance



$$-4 + 6 = 2$$



$$-1 - 4 = -5$$

## Multiply and Divide

+	+	+
+	-	-
-	+	-
-	-	+

When

- multiplying
- dividing
- 2 signs next to each other

eg

$$2 \times -5 = -10$$

$$-3 \times -4 = 12$$

$$16 \div -2 = -8$$

$$-20 \div -4 = 5$$

$$-7 \overset{+}{-} 2 = -7 + 2 = -5$$

$$8 \overset{+}{-} 2 = 8 + 2 = 10$$

WARNING

$-3 - 5 = -8$  ✓  
Can't combine 2 minuses as there is a number between

~~$$-3 - 5 = 3 + 5$$~~