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## What is *Mathematica*?

*Mathematica* is a software package which is ideal for communicating scientific ideas, whether this is visualization of a concept in an intro-level course, or creating a simulation of a new idea related to research. *Mathematica* is used in virtually all of the world's top universities and colleges, and is commonly used in the following types of departments --- [Mathematical Sciences](#), [Physical Sciences](#), [Business and Finance](#), [Life Sciences](#), [Engineering](#), [Computer Science](#)

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## How to Get *Mathematica*

*Mathematica* can be installed in any computer lab maintained by IT:

- [All computer labs maintained by IT](#)

*Mathematica* can also be installed on:

- [Faculty and staff campus machines, click here for Wolfram User Portal download site](#)

Instructions: (1) Click link above, choose "Continue without signing in"  
(2) Use organization email, @northlandcollege.edu, and request Activation Key,  
(3) Check email for link to download installer,  
(4) Create WolframID and download installer,  
(5) Run installer and enter Activation Key

- [Faculty and staff personally-owned machines, click for Wolfram request form](#)
- [Student personal machines, click here for Student Wolfram User Portal download site](#)

Instructions: (1) Click link above, choose "Continue without signing in"  
(2) Use organization email, @northlandcollege.edu, and request Activation Key,  
(3) Check email for link to download installer,  
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## Tutorials to Learn *Mathematica*

The first two tutorials are excellent for new users, and can be assigned to students to learn *Mathematica* outside of class time.

- [First Ten Minutes with \*Mathematica\*](#) - Shows most current tips and templates to get started with *Mathematica*, including free-form input

- [Hands-On Start to \*Mathematica\*](#) - Review and assign to students as homework for more in-depth overview

Collection of tutorials to branch out and explore more specific applications and areas of *Mathematica*.

- [Learning Center](#) - Search Wolfram's large collection of materials for example calculations or tutorials in your field of interest

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## Teaching with *Mathematica*

- [How To Create a Lecture Slideshow](#) - Show a mixture of graphics, calculations, nicely formatted text, as slides with live calculations or animations in class
- [Assigning Student Projects \(Video Tutorial\)](#) - Give students guided projects to explore concepts either through a Course Management System to supplement your text
- [Full Collection of How To Tutorials](#) - Ranging from how to create animations to basic syntax information

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## Research with *Mathematica*

- [Programming and Parallel Computing Basics \(Video Tutorial\)](#) - Learn how to create programs and take advantage of multi-core machines or a dedicated cluster
- [Scope of Field-Specific Applications](#) - Learn what areas of *Mathematica* are useful for specific fields