

Order of Operations

When evaluating an algebraic or arithmetic expression you always read the expression from left to right. If the current operation you are looking at is out ranked by the very next operation you cannot perform the current operation until the next operation is completed. If the next operation is out ranked by the operation that immediately follows it, this operation likewise, cannot be performed until the higher ranking operation has been performed. The ranking of operations from highest to lowest rank is as follows:

1. Parenthesis
2. Exponentials
3. Multiplication/Division
4. Addition/Subtraction