

**Successful Homework Practice**

- Do you believe you successfully complete your homework? As you do the activity below, think about this question and think about the process you go through to complete your homework.
- Dedicating yourself to doing a thorough job on the homework is the most important commitment to ensure your success in any mathematics course.

**Directions:** For each statement below, write a 0 for never, 1 for sometimes, and 2 for always. Then add up your score.

- \_\_\_\_\_ Before I start my homework, I read my lecture notes.
- \_\_\_\_\_ When I read my lecture notes, I re-do the examples my instructor did.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Before I start my homework, I read the book.
- \_\_\_\_\_ When reading the book, I make my own notes to summarize what I read.
- \_\_\_\_\_ When I read the book, I sit with a paper and pencil and do all the examples in the book.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I do my homework in a quiet study area.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I start my homework right after class.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I finish my homework in advance, so that I have enough time to ask for help before it's due.
- \_\_\_\_\_ When I turn my homework in, it is complete; I am confident that every problem (or almost every problem) is correct, and I understand it.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Before I ask for help with the homework, I prepare myself by studying the information and making my best effort to understand it and try it on my own.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Before I ask for help with the homework, I go back and read my notes and/or the book  
to try and understand what I'm having trouble with.
- \_\_\_\_\_ When I don't understand a homework problem, a topic in my lecture notes, or something I read in the book, I attend office hours, ask a tutor for help, or seek assistance some other way, but I don't let a question go unanswered.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I do my homework with a study group.
- \_\_\_\_\_ My exam scores reflect my homework scores. In other words, if I get A's on the homework, I also get an A on the exam.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I do my homework at the same time and in the same place in order to make it a habit.

Now that you have placed a 0, 1, or 2 next to the statements above, add up your score.

My total score is \_\_\_\_\_

Find your score below and locate the letter grade next to your score. The letter grade is an estimate of the grade you will earn in the class in relationship to your homework performance and the process in which you go about completing the homework.

A: 18-30

B: 13-17

C: 9-12

D: 6-8

F: 1-5

If you are not happy with the score you got, go back to the statements above and think about how you can successfully do your homework and in return, earn the grade you want in your math class.

- Do you think you have been completing your homework successfully in the past?

List a few things you're going to commit yourself to doing this semester to improve your homework skills. Improving the process in which you do your homework will improve your overall grade in the class. Therefore, it is important that you keep this list somewhere visible so that you are reminded of the commitment you made to yourself every time you start a homework assignment.

1.

2.

3.

4.

**Group discussion:** Share your responses with someone else to compare notes. Be prepared to share your responses to the class as a class discussion.