

You're about to unlock a powerful tool for writing beautiful math expressions! LaTeX (pronounced *Lay-tech*) is the gold standard for typesetting mathematics, and it's surprisingly easy to get started with—especially for high school-level math. Here's your first step:

Step 1: Learn Basic LaTeX Math Syntax

LaTeX uses special commands to format math. You write math inside **math mode**, which is activated using dollar signs:

- **Inline math:** `\( ... \)` or `$ ... $`
- **Displayed math** (centered and on its own line): `\[ ... \]` or `$$ ... $$`

Examples

Math Expression	LaTeX Code
$x^2 + 3x + 2$	<code>x^2 + 3x + 2</code>
$\frac{a}{b}$	<code>\frac{a}{b}</code>
$\sqrt{16} = 4$	<code>\sqrt{16} = 4</code>
$\sum_{i=1}^n i$	<code>\sum_{i=1}^n i</code>
$\int_0^1 x^2 dx$	<code>\int_0^1 x^2 \, dx</code>

Step 2: Try It Out Online

You don't need to install anything to begin. Here are some great online LaTeX editors:

- [Overleaf](#) — collaborative and beginner-friendly
 - [LaTeX Base](#) — simple and clean
 - [Mathcha](#) — visual editor for math diagrams and equations
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Step 3: Focus on What You Need

For high school math, start with:

- **Algebra:** powers, roots, fractions
- **Geometry:** angles, symbols like `( \angle )`, `( \triangle )`
- **Trigonometry:** `( \sin, \cos, \tan )`
- **Calculus basics:** limits, derivatives, integrals