

How to display equations in the Test and Quiz area of Sakai

The text editor in Sakai allows you to create simple equations or expressions. But if you need to use more than just basic symbols such as the plus, minus or equals sign, then you need to add the math skin to your Sakai course. The math skin applies extra code to Sakai which enables your LaTeX code to display equations in the Test and Quiz area of Sakai.

To enable the Test and Quiz area of your Sakai course to render equations, do the following:

1. Log into Sakai.
2. Navigate to your course.
3. Click on Site Editor.
4. Select 'Edit Tools' from the top menu bar.
5. Check the 'Skin Selector' check box.
6. Click the 'Continue' button at the bottom of the page and then click 'Save.'

Now you should see a button in your left navigation called 'Skin Selector.'

7. Click on the 'Skin Selector' button.
8. In the pull down menu, select 'naval_math'.
 - If you do not see the 'naval_math' skin and you are using the Internet Explorer browser, you will need to either use a different browser or contact clehelp@nps.edu. When contacting CLE Help include your site title and we will change the skin for you.
9. Click 'Save.'
10. Click 'Finish.'

Your course is now enabled to render equations in the Test and Quiz area of Sakai. Typing or pasting your LaTeX code directly into the Sakai textbox editor will display the desired equation.

How to test your LaTeX code before putting it into Sakai

To avoid having to repeatedly input your code into Sakai and to save it and view it ... only to discover you've made a mistake, we've created a testing page where you can input all your LaTeX code to check it before you use it in Sakai. You can access this handy tool here:

http://eddy.nps.edu/tools/math_editor/index.html

Where can you get LaTeX code for your Sakai Tests and Quizzes?

You can use MathType to generate LaTeX code. Here's how you do that:

1. Open MathType.
2. Select Preferences→Translators....
3. Check 'Translation to other language (text):'
4. From the Translator pull down menu, select one of the TeX choices. (Do not check any of the 'Include...' checkboxes at the bottom of the Translator dialogue box.)

How to display equations for Sakai Tests and Quizzes

5. Click 'OK.'
6. Generate an equation as you normally would.
7. Highlight and copy the equation you created.
8. Go to the LaTeX Editor (http://eddy.nps.edu/tools/math_editor/index.html) and paste into the text box.
9. View your equation below the input box to see if it displays correctly. (You can use the LaTeX Commands shown on the right to alter your equation as needed.)
10. When your equation looks right, copy the LaTeX code.
11. Navigate to the Quiz or Test where you want your equation to display and paste directly into the textbox of the Sakai textbox editor.

Note: Your equation will be 'wrapped' with what's called delimiters--wrapped with $...$ or $\left[...\right]$ or $\left(\dots\right)$. The first two will center your equation. The last one will allow you to position your equation in line with text.

Go to <http://ced3.tumblr.com/post/984009974/using-mathjax-in-sakai> to read more about this tool or to share your ideas on how it might be used.