

1. Calculate the derivative (slope of the tangent line) using the definition.

Distribute/FOIL:  $f'(3) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{9 + 6h + h^2 + 15 + 5h - 24}{h}$	Step: ____
Collect like terms:  $f'(3) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{h^2 + 11h}{h}$	Step: ____
Evaluate the limit:  $f'(3) = 11$	Step: ____
Definition of the derivative at $x = 3$ :  $f'(3) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(3 + h) - f(3)}{h}$	Step: ____
Factor:  $f'(3) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{h(h + 11)}{h}$	Step: ____
Begin Simplifying:  $f'(3) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(3 + h)(3 + h) + 5(3 + h) - 24}{h}$	Step: ____
Cancel:  $f'(3) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} h + 11$	Step: ____
Use $f(x) = x^2 + 5x$  $f'(3) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(3 + h)^2 + 5(3 + h) - 24}{h}$	Step: ____

2.  $f(x) = 3x^2 - x$ . Find  $f'(x)$  by circling the correct next step from each row. In the third column, explain why this is the correct step and what caused the error in the incorrect step.

Step 1.	$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}$	$\lim_{h \rightarrow -2} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}$	
Step 2.	$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{3(x+h)^2 - x + h + (3x^2 - x)}{h}$	$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{3(x+h)^2 - x - h - (3x^2 - x)}{h}$	
Step 3.	$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{3(x^2 + 2xh + h^2) - x - h - (3x^2 - x)}{h}$	$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{3(x^2 + h^2) - x - h - (3x^2 - x)}{h}$	
Step 4.	$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{3x^2 + 2xh + h^2 - x - h - (3x^2 - x)}{h}$	$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{3x^2 + 6xh + 3h^2 - x - h - (3x^2 - x)}{h}$	
Step 5.	$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{6xh + 3h^2 - h}{h}$	$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{3h^2 + 6xh - h - 2x}{h}$	
Step 6.	$\frac{3h^2 + 6xh - h}{h}$	$\frac{h(3h + 6x - 1)}{h}$	
Step 7.	$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} 3h + 6x - 1$	$3h + 6x - 1$	
Step 8.	$6x + 2$	$6x - 1$	

3.  $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$ . Find  $f'(4)$  by filling in the boxes with the correct mathematical expressions.

$$f'(4) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(\boxed{\phantom{000}}) - f(\boxed{\phantom{00}})}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{4+h} - 2}{h} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{4+h} + 2}{\sqrt{4+h} + 2}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{4 + h + \boxed{\phantom{0000}}}{h (\sqrt{4 + h} + 2)}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\square}{h(\sqrt{4+h}+2)}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\sqrt{4+h}+2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{4 + \boxed{\phantom{000}} + 2}}$$

$$=$$

4. Now you're on your own! Use the definition of the derivative to calculate the following derivatives.

(a)  $f(x) = 7x^2 + 5x$ . Find  $f'(2)$ .

(b)  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$ . Find  $f'(3)$ .

(c)  $f(x) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{x}}$ . Find  $f'(4)$ .

5. Now you're on your own! Use the definition of the derivative to calculate the following derivatives.

(a)  $f(x) = 2x^2 + 4x$

(b)  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$

(c)  $f(x) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{x}}$