

Composition of Functions Algorithm $f(g(x))$

Combining Rules

1. Write the f and g functions
2. Write the $f(x)$ rule
3. In $f(x)$, substitute $g(x)$ for every x
4. Substitute the $g(x)$ rule
5. Simplify

If $f(x) = 2x + 5$ and $g(x) = 3x + 1$, find $f\{g(x)\}$

$$f(x) = 2x + 5$$

$$f(g(x)) = 2 g(x) + 5$$

$$= 2 (3x + 1) + 5$$

$$= 6x + 2 + 5$$

$$f(g(x)) = 6x + 7$$

If $t(x) = 4x$, $h(x) = 2x + 1$, find $h(t(x))$

$$h(x) = 2x + 1$$

$$\begin{aligned}h(t(x)) &= 2(t(x)) + 1 \\ &= 2(4x) + 1 \\ &= 8x + 1\end{aligned}$$

We just found $h(t(x))$, let's find $t(h(x))$ and see.

Does $h(t(x)) = t(h(x))$?

$$\begin{aligned}t(x) &= 4x \\ t(h(x)) &= 4(h(x)) \\ &= 4(2x + 1) \\ &= 8x + 4\end{aligned}$$

We can see $h(t(x)) \neq t(h(x))$