

Differentiation - Chain Rule 1

1. The chain rule is used when there are 2 functions. An outside function (the one you see right away – the “*entire*” thing) and then the function “*inside*” it. For each of the following, find u , where this is the “outside” function and v where this is the “inside” function. Then differentiate each and multiply the result together to complete the derivative. The first one has been done for you.

a) $g(x) = (2x + 3)^3$

b) $h(x) = (4x + 5)^5$

So:

$$u = (2x + 3)^3 \text{ and } v = 2x + 3$$

Derivative of both:

$$u' = 3(2x + 3)^2 \text{ and } v' = 2$$

Multiply u' by v'

$$g'(x) = 2(3) (2x + 3)^2$$

Simplify to finish:

$$g'(x) = 6 (2x + 3)^2$$

c) $y = 3(2x^2 - 4)^3$

d) $y = -(-x^2 - 5)^2$

e) $y = \sqrt{x^3 + 3x}$

f) $y = \sqrt{x^4 + 6}$

2. For the functions below, determine the equation of the tangent ($y = mx + c$) for the specified x-coordinate.

a) $y = (x^2 - 3)^4$ where $x = 2$

b) $f(x) = 2\sqrt{8x - 4}$ where $x = 1$