

Reverse Polish (Postfix) Notation

In this notation the operator symbol is placed after its two operands. For example,

→ To add A to B we can write as $AB +$ or $BA +$

→ to subtract D from C we have to write as $CD -$ not as $DC -$.

In order to translate an arithmetic expression in infix notation to reverse polish notation, we do step by step using brackets([]) to indicate the partial translation.

Consider the following expression in infix notation:

$$(A - B/C) * (A * K - L)$$

the partial translations may look like:

$$= (A - [BC/]) * ([AK *] - L)$$

$$= [ABC/-] * [AK * L-]$$

$$= ABC/-AK * L -*$$

Example 1 : $A + (B * C - (D/E^F) * G) * H$

1st we will do the work of Parenthesis.

Next we will follow the precedence table:

<i>List of Operators In Expression</i>

<u>Symbol Used</u>	<u>Operation Performed</u>	<u>Precedence</u>
\wedge (Caret)	Exponent (Power)	Highest
$*$ (asterisk)	Multiplication	Highest
$/$ (Slash)	Division	Highest
$\%$ (percentage)	Modulus (Remainder)	Highest
$+$ (Plus)	Addition	Lowest
$-$ (hyphen)	Subtraction	Lowest

Highest precedence will be executed first and lowest at last.

$$= A + (B * C - ([D/EF^]) * G) * H$$

$$= A + (B * C - ([DEF^/]) * G) * H$$

$$= A + (B * C - [DEF^/G *]) * H$$

$$= A + ([BC *] - DEF^/G *) * H$$

$$= A + (BC * DEF^/G * -) * H$$

$$= A + [BC * DEF^/G * -H *]$$

$$= [ABC * DEF^/G * -H * +]$$

$$= ABC * DEF^/G * -H * +$$

Example 2 : $A + (B * C - (D/E + F) * G) * H$

$$= A + (B * C - ([DE/] + F) * G) * H$$

$$= A + (B * C - ([DE/F+]) * G) * H$$

$$= A + (B * C - [DE/F + G *]) * H$$

$$= A + ([BC *] - DE/F + G *) * H$$

$$= A + (BC * DE/F + G * -) * H$$

$$= A + [BC * DE/F + G * -H *]$$

$$= [ABC * DE/F + G * -H * +]$$

$$= ABC * DE/F + G * -H * +$$