

Antiderivatives:

Antiderivative of a function f is a function F such that

$$F' = f$$

Find antiderivatives of the following functions:

① $f(x) = x^2$

Note: In the power rule, the power gets reduced by 1.

Let, $F(x) = Ax^3$, then $F'(x) = A(x^3)' = 3Ax^2$

$$F'(x) = f(x) \Rightarrow 3Ax^2 = x^2$$

↓ Equating coefficients we get

$$3A = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow A = \frac{1}{3}$$

Hence, $F(x) = \frac{1}{3}x^3$

But $F(x) = \frac{1}{3}x^3 + 100$ also has $f(x)$ as derivative.

So, our general antiderivative is $F(x) = \frac{x^3}{3} + c$, where c is any constant.

② In general the anti derivative of $f(x) = x^n$, $n \neq -1$, is given by $F(x) = \frac{x^{n+1}}{n+1} + c$, c is any constant.

③ For $n = -1$, $F(x) = \ln x + c$, as $F'(x) = \frac{1}{x} = x^{-1}$.

$$\textcircled{2} \quad f(x) = 5 \cos 3x$$

Note:- Since the derivative of trigonometric function is again trigonometric.

$$\text{Let } F(x) = A \sin 3x + B \cos 3x$$

$$\text{Then, } F'(x) = A \cos 3x \cdot 3 + B (-\sin 3x) \cdot 3$$

$$= 3A \cos 3x - 3B \sin 3x$$

$$\text{Since, } F'(x) = f(x)$$

$$\Rightarrow 3A \cos 3x - 3B \sin 3x = 5 \cos 3x + 0 \sin 3x$$

$$\Rightarrow 3A = 5 \quad \& \quad -3B = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow A = \frac{5}{3} \quad \& \quad B = 0$$

$$\text{Then } F(x) = \frac{5}{3} \sin 3x + 0 \cos 3x \\ = \frac{5}{3} \sin 3x.$$

Hence our general Antiderivative is $F(x) = \frac{5}{3} \sin 3x + C$.

$$\textcircled{3} \quad f(x) = e^{mx}, \text{ where } m \text{ is a fixed constant.}$$

Note:- Since the derivative of an exponential function is again exponential,

$$\text{Let } F(x) = A e^{mx}. \text{ Then } F'(x) = A e^{mx} \cdot m.$$

$$\text{Since } F'(x) = f(x) \Rightarrow A e^{mx} \cdot m = e^{mx}$$

Comparing coefficients we get, $A m = 1 \Rightarrow A = \frac{1}{m}$

Then $F(x) = \frac{1}{m} e^{mx}$.

So, the general antiderivative is $F(x) = \frac{e^{mx}}{m} + C$.

Ex. Suppose $F'(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}}$ & $F(1) = 5$. Find $F(x)$.

Here, $f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} = x^{-\frac{1}{2}}$, i.e., $n = -\frac{1}{2}$. ($\neq -1$)

$$\text{Then, } F(x) = \frac{x^{-\frac{1}{2}+1}}{-\frac{1}{2}+1} + C$$

$$= \frac{x^{\frac{1}{2}}}{\frac{1}{2}} + C$$

$$= 2\sqrt{x} + C$$

$$\text{Given } F(1) = 5 \Rightarrow 2\sqrt{1} + C = 5$$

$$\Rightarrow 2 + C = 5 \Rightarrow C = 3$$

$$\text{Hence } F(x) = 2\sqrt{x} + 3.$$