

What is ALEKS?

ALEKS stands for **A**ssessment and **L**earning in **K**nowledge **S**paces. ALEKS is an adaptive learning program that is unlike any other homework system. Think of it as a human tutor designed to help you learn math.

How it Works:

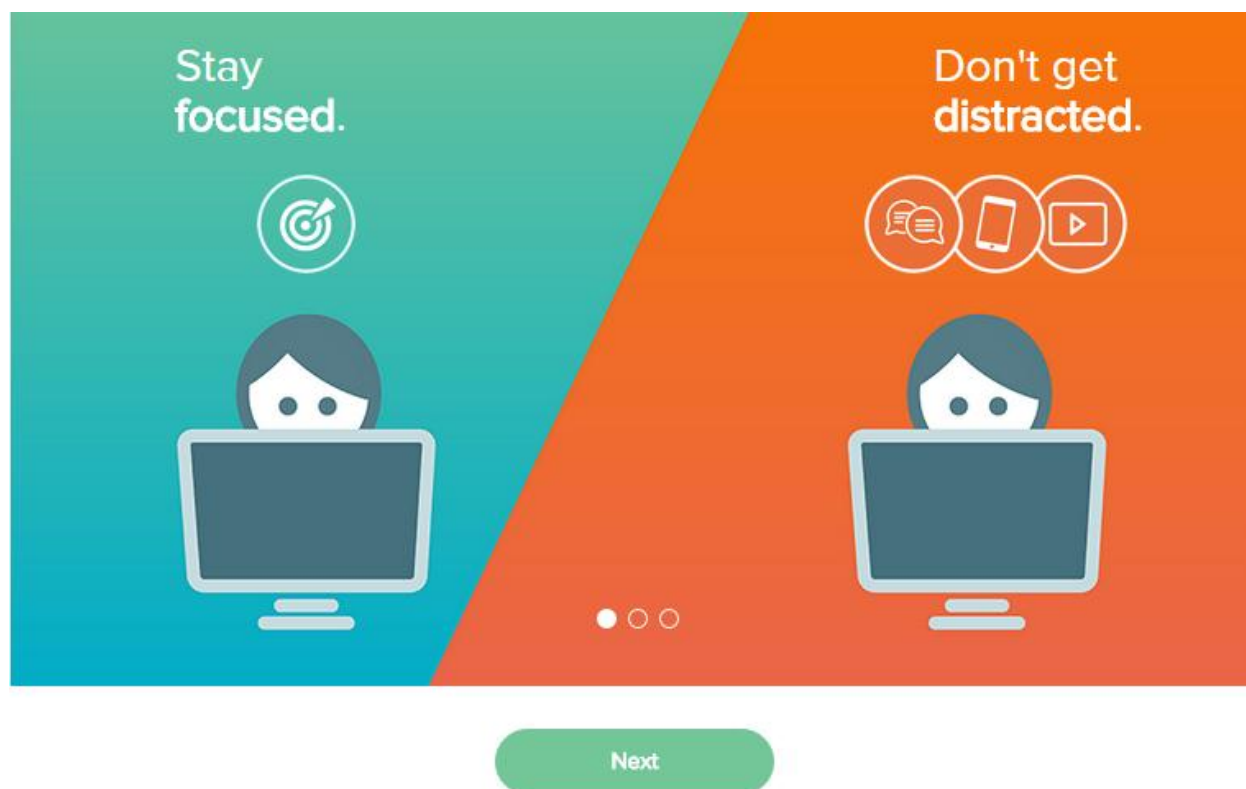
ALEKS uses artificial intelligence to determine what you know and don't know in a course. ALEKS then creates an individualized learning plan that guides you to work on material that you are ready to learn.

To make sure you remember what you learn, ALEKS will periodically have you complete a Knowledge Check. These Knowledge Checks are designed to *help* you in the long run, so take them seriously!



After you create your account, you will complete these two steps before starting your course:

- 1) Take a short tutorial on how to navigate ALEKS and enter your answers.
- 2) Complete your Initial Knowledge Check. Don't worry! It's not timed or graded. It is 25-30 questions and takes about 45 minutes to 1.5 hours to complete.



Here's a sample question from the Initial Knowledge Check. Notice there are no multiple-choice questions in ALEKS.

Use the distributive property to remove the parentheses.

$$-6(2v - y - 6)$$

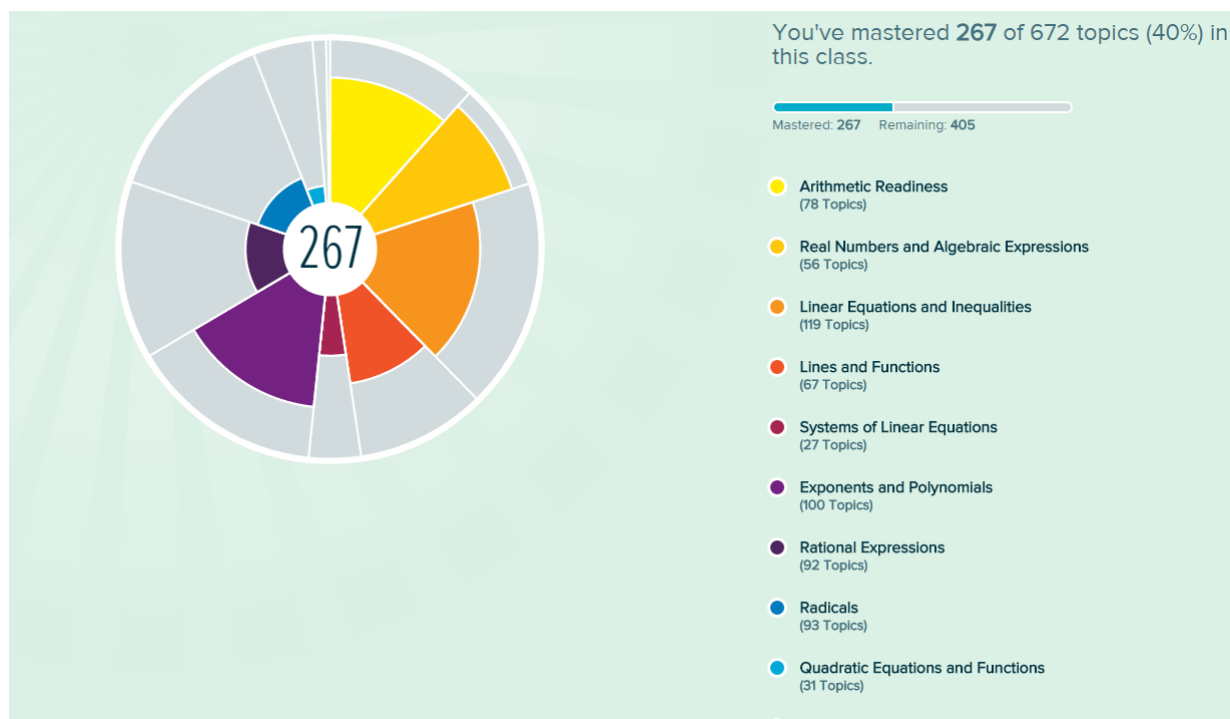
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INITIAL KNOWLEDGE CHECK TIPS

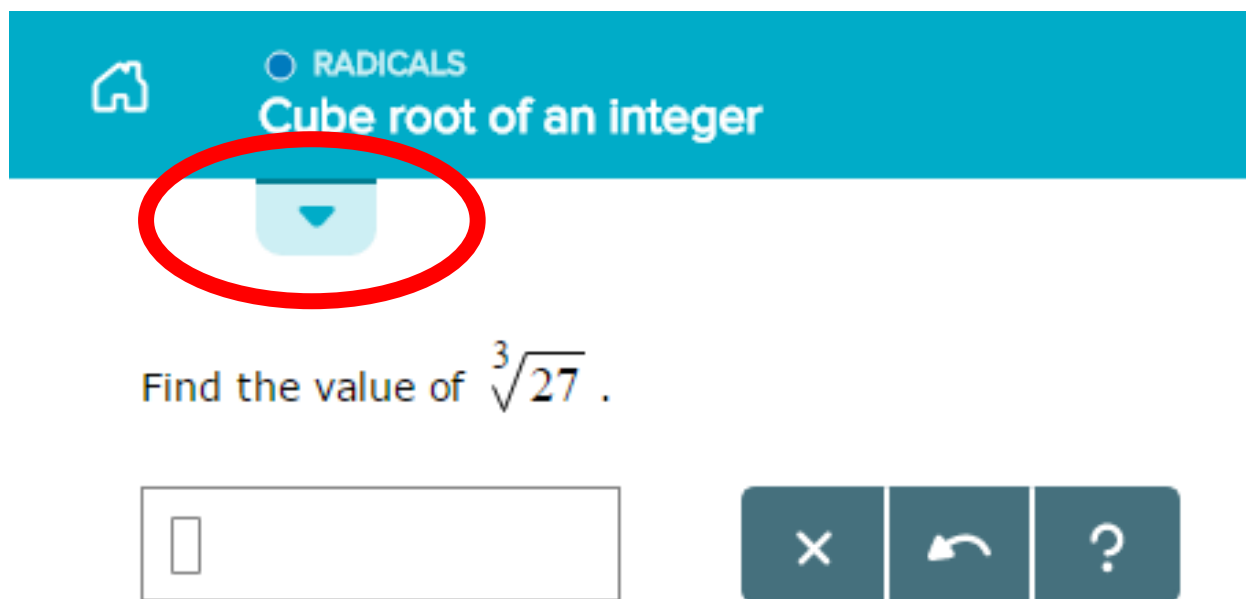
- The purpose of the Initial Knowledge Check is to find out what you know and don't know, so that you only have to work on the material that you are ready for.
- Take it seriously! Not being honest will give you MORE work in the future.
- Don't consult outside resources. Be honest about what you know and don't know.
- Don't be afraid to click the "I don't know" button. We don't expect you to know everything in the course at the beginning.

After you finish the Initial Knowledge Check, you will see your ALEKS Pie Chart. This shows your knowledge of the course material. Notice that you've been given credit for knowing some of the material.

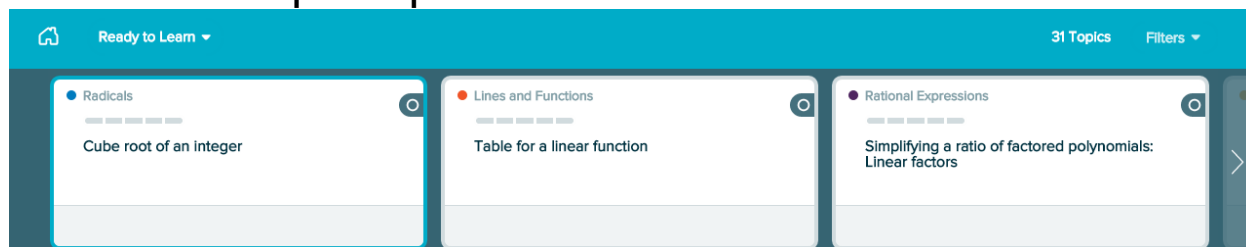
The dark portion of each pie slice shows what you know. The gray portion shows what you have left to learn.



You will select topics to learn from the topic carousel that is at the top of your screen. You may have to click on the arrow tab under the name of your current topic to reveal your topic carousel.



This is a sample topic carousel.



Topics are arranged with the easiest topic on the far left. After selecting a topic to learn, you will work on several questions that will help you learn about that topic. ALEKS will give you immediate feedback on each of your answers and sometimes offer helpful hints.

Extra resources are available to help you answer questions successfully. On the right side of the screen you have access to your eBook (if used), videos, a calculator (some of the time), a glossary, and the ability to message your instructor for help.

Topic Name

You need 2 correct in a row

Graph the following function.

$$g(x) = 3e^{x+1} + 2$$

To draw the graph, plot two points and the asymptotes (if any) of the graph. Then click on the graph icon.

Calculator, Video, Glossary, and Messaging icons are highlighted in a red circle.

If you need help solving a question, click on the **Explanation** button at the bottom of the screen.

Use the Explanation button if you need help. Don't worry – it won't count against you!

Got It

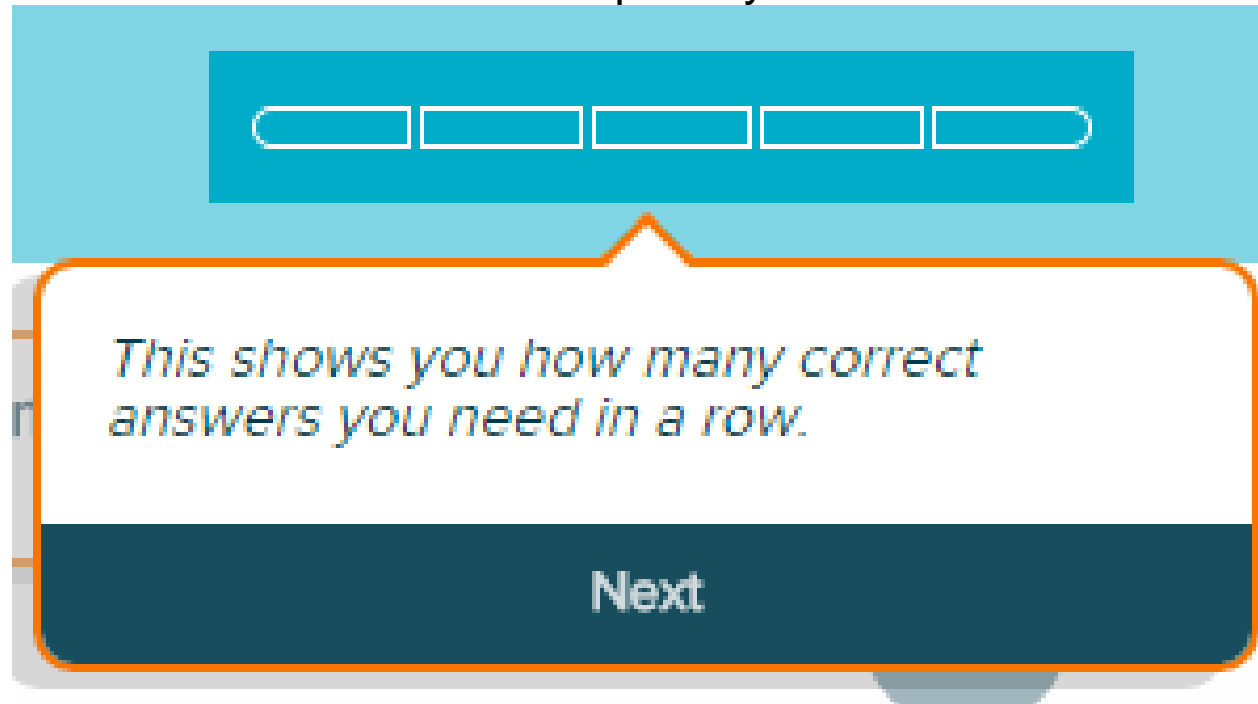
Explanation

Check

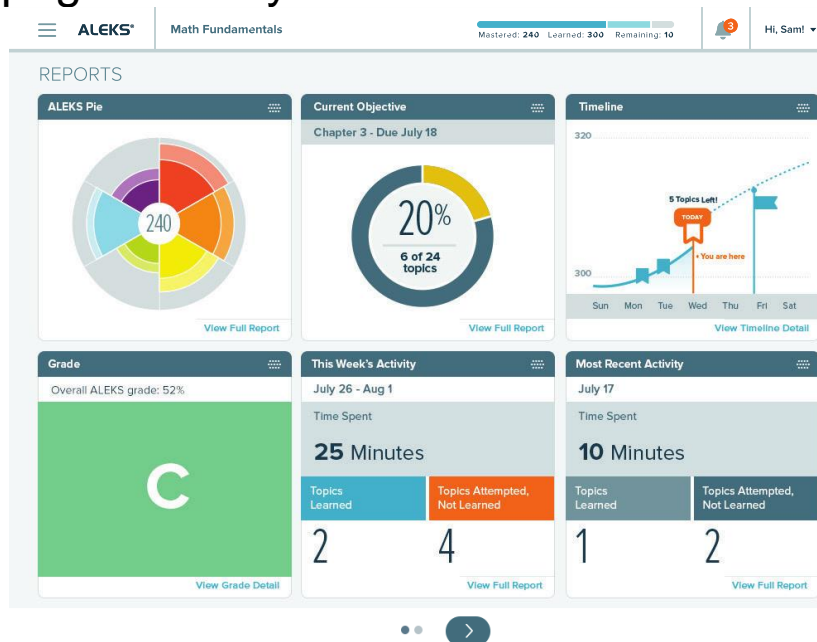
LEARNING TIP:

Keep a notebook to track your work for each ALEKS question. It will help you stay organized and focus on areas that you may need extra help with.

The progress bar in the upper right hand corner will inform you of how many questions you need to get correct in order to add the topic to your Pie.



You can track your course mastery by going to your reports page to see your student dashboard.



IMPORTANT!

As you work in ALEKS, you will be asked to stop your work and complete a Knowledge Check. The purpose of the Knowledge Check is to make sure you *remember* what you have been learning.

If you forget something, or need more practice, ALEKS will ask you to review that topic again.

The Knowledge Checks aren't meant to set you back, but rather to help you *remember* what you are learning so that you can excel in class and, even better, on your Final Exam!

On your student homepage, you will see the Menu icon in the upper left hand corner. When you click on this, you will access your ALEKS menu. You will be able to access many items in ALEKS such as:

Assignments: Homeworks, tests, quizzes or assessments that you need to complete

Calendar: View all assignments by date

Gradebook: Track your performance on assignments

Reports: Track your time logged and progress on your Pie

Message Center: Access the ALEKS Messaging Center

Dictionary: Look up definitions and examples of key terms

ALEKS Settings: Edit your email so you don't miss important messages from your instructor

ALEKS + Effort = Success in Math

- Don't wait until the last minute to meet a deadline in ALEKS – it will be harder to catch up and you will end up doing MORE work and wasting time. **Log in every day!**
- Try to solve each question before clicking on the Explanation button. You will be much more aware of what is confusing to you and what to focus on.
- **Take each Knowledge Check seriously.** Do your best work without consulting outside resources – your performance on an ALEKS Knowledge Check will affect your Pie.
- Think ALEKS is marking your answer as incorrect by mistake? **Complaining to your instructor won't fix it!** Contact ALEKS Customer Support through your ALEKS messaging system. See the last page of this document for contact information.
- Regular use of ALEKS will increase your performance and success – ALEKS is more than just homework. It teaches you math!

For instructions on registering for your ALEKS course and managing your student account, visit:

http://www.aleks.com/highered/math/Higher_Ed_Student_Registration.pdf

ALEKS Technical Support

- Hours (Eastern Time)
 - Sunday: 4pm – 1am
 - Monday – Thursday: 7am – 1am
 - Friday: 7am – 9pm
- Contact Support: <http://support.aleks.com>
- Visit www.aleks.com/support
 - FAQs
 - User Guides
 - System Requirements
 - Troubleshooting