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## 0.2.6 Proving and LAFF

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# 0.2.6 Proving and LAFF

## Blank Common Problem

1/1 point (ungraded)  
Read Unit 0.2.6 of the notes. [\[LINK\]](#)

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## Discussion

Topic: Week 0 / 0.2.6

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Traditionally, Linear Algebra is a course that develops one’s ability to prove mathematical facts. In this course, we invite you to expand upon your reasoning skills.

Proofs are first and foremost persuasive arguments. They help us connect, justify, and communicate our ideas. We encourage you, as you engage in LAFF, to question your developing intuitions and take an active part in the abstraction process by extending what you know and thinking in general terms.

In the beginning, communicating your ideas in your own words to convince yourself is valuable. However, to convince others and reveal your thought processes, making your arguments more formal is beneficial. We hope that you will come to appreciate, understand, and, YES, produce proofs.

Throughout this course, you will be asked to think a little deeper, extending your knowledge of properties of number systems to new structures that we encounter. Our Always/Sometimes/Never as well as True/False exercises are designed to do this. In addition to your answer, we urge you to think first, and then write a convincing argument explaining why you selected this answer. We will share with you, in text and video, our own formal proofs. Please get into the habit of trying on your own before peeking. Even if your proof differs from ours, remember that there is often more than one way to prove a result. You may want to discuss your proof with others on the discussion boards.

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Calculator

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