Homework guidelines

One of the goals of this course is that you learn to present your mathematical work in an organized and complete way. These guidelines are intended to help you do so. Please follow them carefully as you write up your solutions to the homework problems.

Use 8.5 × 11 (inches) paper, written on one side only, with at least 1 inch margins on all sides.

Write in one column only; do not write separate problems next to each other. Skip at least one line between problems.

Homework papers should be either typed, or written neatly enough to give the appearance of being typed. This means minimize crossed out text; don’t write in the margins; and write horizontally.

Use proper grammar, spelling, and punctuation. Equations should be punctuated. For example, notice that there is a period at the end of the following equation:

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k(k+1)} = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left( \frac{1}{k} - \frac{1}{k+1} \right) = \left( \frac{1}{1} - \frac{1}{2} \right) + \left( \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{3} \right) + \left( \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{4} \right) + \cdots = 1. $$

It is fine to use mathematical symbols like: =, >, ∃, ∀, etc., but their use must be grammatically correct. For example, if you use the symbol ∃, you must be able to replace it with the words “there exists” and get a grammatically correct sentence.

Any variable used must be defined before its use.