

Pre - Calculus Math 40S:

# Exponential and Logarithmic Functions

$$y = \log_2 \left( \frac{A}{B} \right)$$

## LESSON 1

Graphing Exponential / Logarithmic Functions

Pre - Calculus  
Math 40S

**EXPLAINED!**

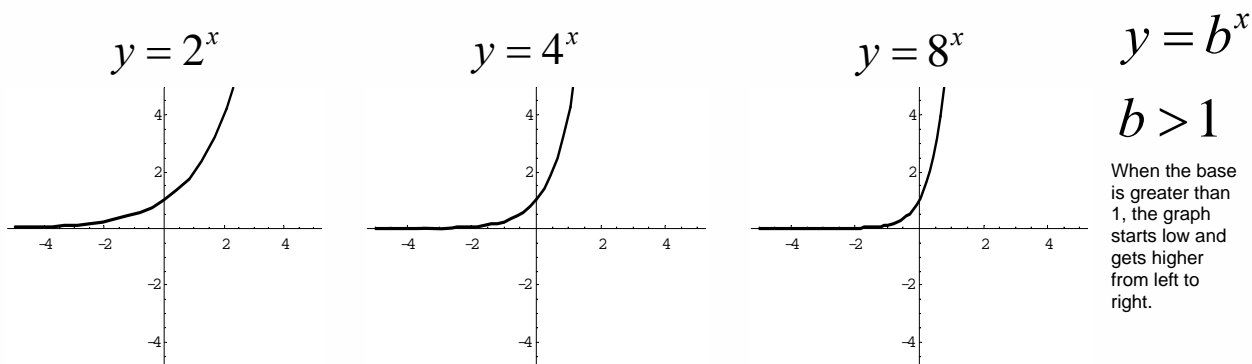
By  
Barry  
Mabillard

# LOGARITHMS LESSON 1

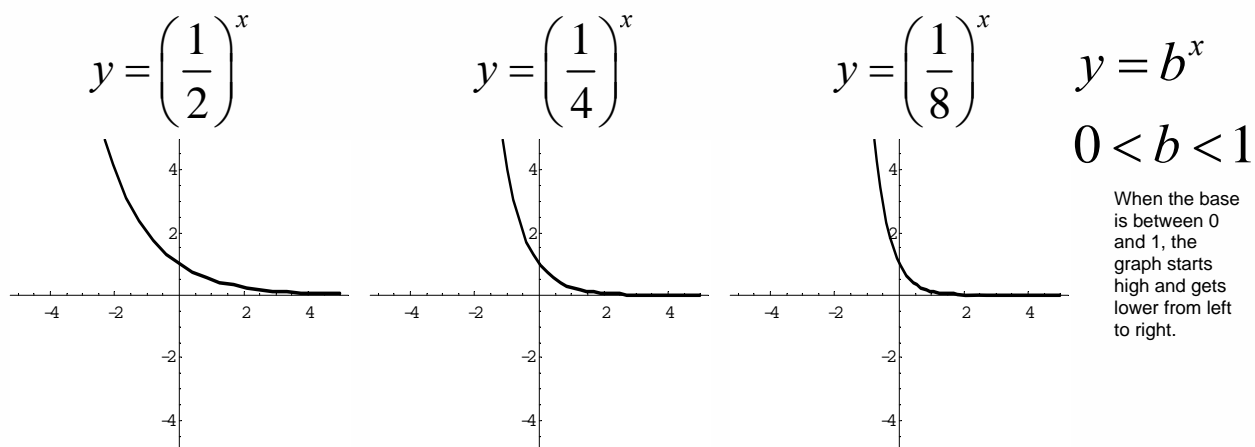
## PART I: EXPONENTIAL FUNCTIONS

**EXPONENTIAL FUNCTIONS:** THESE ARE FUNCTIONS WHERE THE VARIABLE IS AN EXPONENT.

The first type of exponential graph occurs when the base has a value greater than 1:



The second type occurs when the base has a value between 0 and 1.



- Notice that the point  $(0, 1)$  is common to all untransformed exponential graphs. This is because anything raised to the power of zero is one! You can use this feature as an "anchor point" when drawing these graphs.
- All exponential graphs have a **horizontal asymptote**. In the above graphs, the asymptote occurs along the  $x$ -axis. (Equation:  $y = 0$ )
- The domain of untransformed exponential graphs is  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  since the graph goes left & right forever. The range is  $y > 0$ . (The  $\geq$  symbol is NOT used, due to the presence of the asymptote.)
- Remember all of the above rules are based on untransformed exponential graphs. Once transformations are involved, these points & lines will move.

# LOGARITHMS LESSON 1

## PART II: LOGARITHMIC FUNCTIONS

**LOGARITHMIC FUNCTIONS:** A LOGARITHMIC FUNCTION IS THE INVERSE OF AN EXPONENTIAL FUNCTION.

$$y = \log_b x \leftarrow \text{Variable}$$

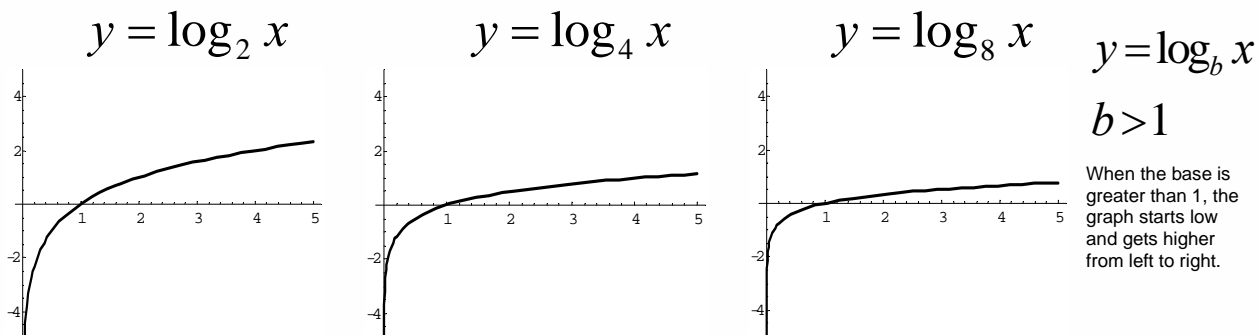
↑  
Base

To draw log graphs in your TI-83, you must type in  $\log(\text{variable}) / \log(\text{base})$ .

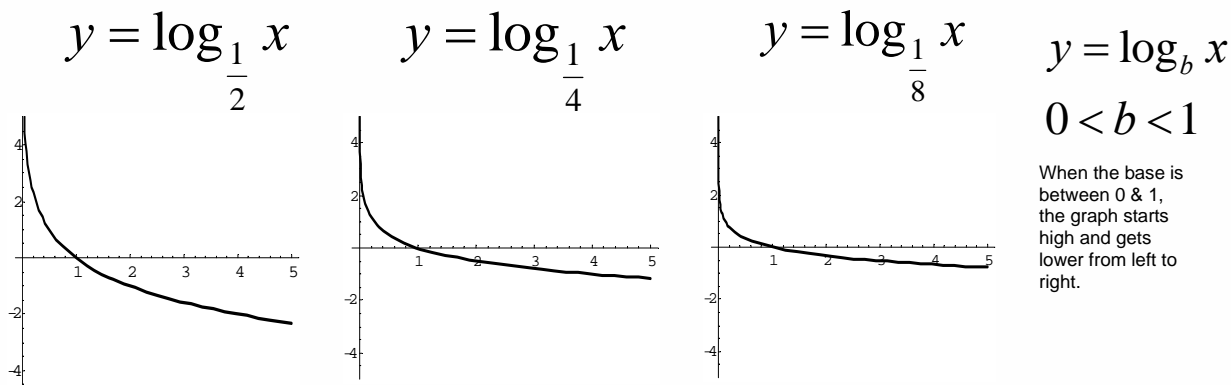
**Example:** To graph  $\log_2 x$ , you would type in  $\log(x) \div \log(2)$

There are two basic types of log graphs you will need to memorize:

The first type occurs when the base of the logarithm is bigger than 1.



The second type is when the base of the logarithm is between 0 and 1.



- Notice that the point  $(1,0)$  is common to all untransformed log graphs. This occurs because a log graph is the inverse of an exponential graph. So, if exponential graphs have the point  $(0,1)$ , it follows that log graphs should pass through  $(1,0)$
- log graphs have a vertical asymptote. In the above graphs, the asymptote occurs along the y-axis. (Equation:  $x = 0$ )
- The domain of untransformed log graphs is  $x > 0$  since the graph is always to the right of the vertical asymptote.
- The range is  $y \in R$  since the graph goes up & down forever.
- If you ever have negative numbers, 0, or 1 as a base, no graph exists since the logarithm is undefined.
- Remember that transformations will change the above values.

# LOGARITHMS LESSON I

## PART II: LOGARITHMIC FUNCTIONS

**Example 1:** Given  $y = \left(\frac{5}{2}\right)^x$ , answer the following:

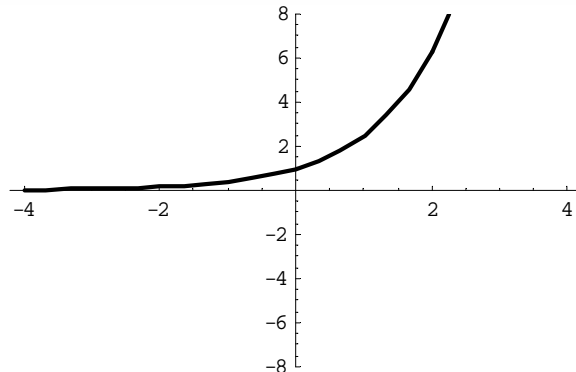
**a) Draw the graph**

Graph in your calculator as  $(5 \div 2)^x$

Use the window settings:

x:  $[-4, 4, 1]$

y:  $[-8, 8, 2]$



**b) What is the domain & range**

The domain is  $x \in \mathcal{R}$

The range is  $y > 0$

**c) What is the equation of the asymptote?**

The asymptote is the x-axis, so the equation is  $y = 0$

**d) What are the x & y intercepts?**

There is no x-intercept due to the asymptote..

Find the y-intercept by using  $2^{nd} \rightarrow \text{Trace} \rightarrow \text{Value} \rightarrow x = 0$  in your TI-83. Answer = (0, 1)

**e) What is the value of the graph when  $x = 2$ ?**

You could plug  $x = 2$  into the equation and solve, but an easier way is to use the TI-83.

Go  $2^{nd} \rightarrow \text{Trace} \rightarrow \text{Value} \rightarrow x = 2$ . This will give you the resulting y-value automatically.

Answer = 6.25

**Example 2:** Given  $y = \log_4 x$ , answer the following:

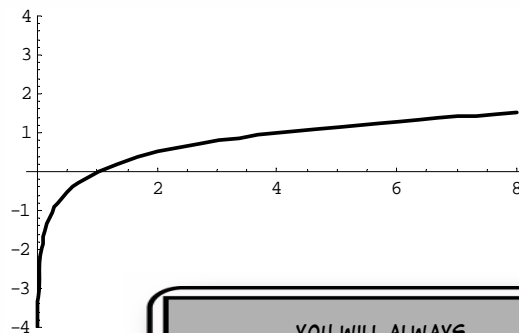
**a) Draw the graph**

Graph in your calculator as  $\log(x) \div \log(4)$

Use the window settings:

x:  $[0, 8, 1]$

y:  $[-4, 4, 1]$



**b) What is the domain & range**

The domain is  $x > 0$  due to the vertical asymptote at the y-axis.

The range is  $y \in \mathcal{R}$

**c) What is the equation of the asymptote?**

The asymptote is the y-axis, so  $x = 0$

**d) What are the x & y intercepts?**

The x - intercept can be found by going

$2^{nd} \rightarrow \text{Trace} \rightarrow \text{Zero}$  in your TI-83. Answer = (1, 0)

There is no y-intercept due to the vertical asymptote at the y-axis.

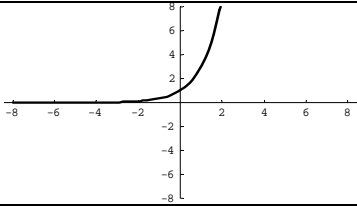
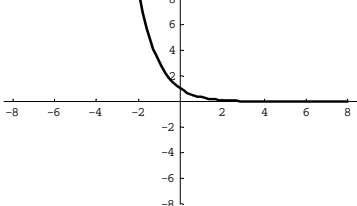
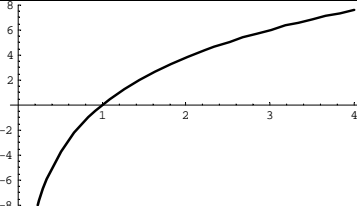
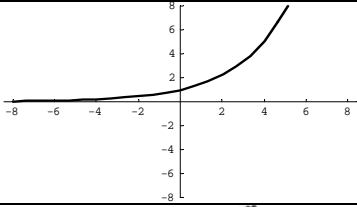
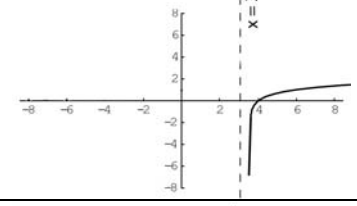
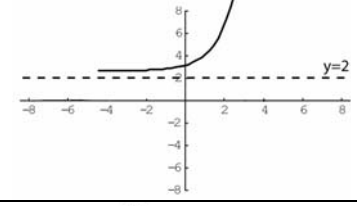
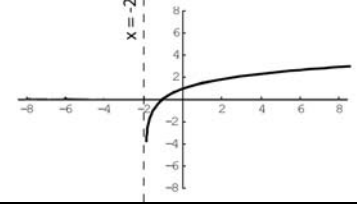
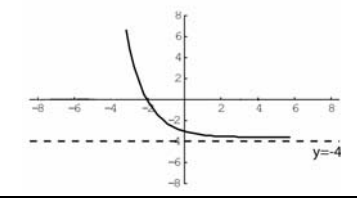
**e) What is the value of the graph when  $x = 2$ ?**

Go  $2^{nd} \rightarrow \text{Trace} \rightarrow \text{Value} \rightarrow x = 2$

Answer = 0.5

YOU WILL ALWAYS HAVE TO TYPE LOGARITHMS INTO YOUR CALCULATOR AS A FRACTION... WITH ONE EXCEPTION: A LOGARITHM WITHOUT A BASE, SUCH AS  $y = \log x$ , CAN BE TYPED IN *AS IS* AND YOU'LL GET THE PROPER GRAPH. LOGARITHMS WITHOUT BASES ARE CALLED COMMON LOGARITHMS. THEY ACTUALLY HAVE A BASE OF 10, IT'S JUST NOT WRITTEN IN. THE LOG BUTTON ON YOUR CALCULATOR IS A COMMON LOGARITHM.

Function	Graph	Domain	Range	Equation of Asymptote	x-intercept	y-intercept	y-value when x = 2
$y = 3^x$							
$y = \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^x$							
$y = \log_{1.2} x$							
$y = \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^x$							
$y = \log(x-3)$							
$y = 2^x + 2$							
$y = \log(x+2)$							
$y = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^x - 4$							

Function	Graph	Domain	Range	Equation of Asymptote	x-intercept	y-intercept	y-value when $x = 2$
$y = 3^x$		$x \in \mathbb{R}$	$y > 0$	$y = 0$	None	1	9
$y = \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^x$		$x \in \mathbb{R}$	$y > 0$	$y = 0$	None	1	$\frac{1}{9}$
$y = \log_{1.2} x$		$x > 0$	$y \in \mathbb{R}$	$x = 0$	1	None	3.80
$y = \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^x$ Notice how the base is greater than 1.		$x \in \mathbb{R}$	$y > 0$	$y = 0$	None	1	2.25
$y = \log(x - 3)$		$x > 3$	$y \in \mathbb{R}$	$x = 3$	4	None	Undefined
$y = 2^x + 2$		$x \in \mathbb{R}$	$y > 2$	$y = 2$	None	3	6
$y = \log(x + 2)$		$x > -2$	$y \in \mathbb{R}$	$x = -2$	-1	0.30	0.60
$y = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^x - 4$		$x \in \mathbb{R}$	$y > -4$	$y = -4$	-2	-3	-3.75

# LOGARITHMS LESSON 1

## PART II: NATURAL LOGARITHMS

**NATURAL LOGARITHMS:** LOGARITHMS THAT HAVE A BASE OF 2.72 ARE CALLED NATURAL LOGARITHMS. (2.72 IS KNOWN AS EULER'S NUMBER, AND IS REPRESENTED BY THE LETTER  $e$ )

**Example 1:** Given  $y = e^x$ , answer the following:

a) Draw the graph

Graph in your calculator using:

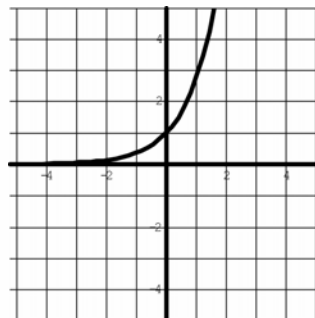
2<sup>nd</sup>  $\rightarrow e^x$  (right above the  $\ln$  button)  $\rightarrow x$

Should look like  $Y_1 = e^x(x)$

Use the window settings:

x: [-5, 5, 1]

y: [-5, 5, 1]



b) What is the domain & range

The domain is  $x \in \mathbb{R}$

The range is  $y > 0$

c) What is the equation of the asymptote?

The asymptote is the x-axis, so the equation is  $y = 0$

d) What are the x & y intercepts?

There is no x-intercept due to the asymptote..

Find the y-intercept by using 2<sup>nd</sup>  $\rightarrow$  Trace  $\rightarrow$  Value  $\rightarrow x = 0$  in your TI-83. Answer = (0, 1)

e) What is the value of the graph when  $x = 2$ ?

You could plug  $x = 2$  into the equation and solve, but an easier way is to use the TI-83.

Go 2<sup>nd</sup>  $\rightarrow$  Trace  $\rightarrow$  Value  $\rightarrow x = 2$ . This will give you the resulting y-value automatically.

Answer = 7.39

**Example 2:** Given  $y = \ln(x)$ , answer the following:

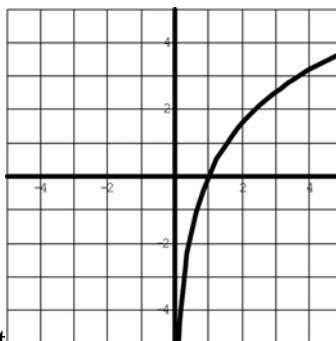
a) Draw the graph

Graph in your calculator as  $\ln(x)$

Use the window settings:

x: [-5, 5, 1]

y: [-5, 5, 1]



b) What is the domain & range

The domain is  $x > 0$  due to the vertical asymptote at the y-axis.

The range is  $y \in \mathbb{R}$

c) What is the equation of the asymptote?

The asymptote is the y-axis, so  $x = 0$

d) What are the x & y intercepts?

The x - intercept can be found by going 2<sup>nd</sup>  $\rightarrow$  Trace  $\rightarrow$  Zero in your TI-83.

Answer = (1, 0) There is no y-intercept due to the vertical asymptote at the y-axis.

e) What is the value of the graph when  $x = 2$ ?

Go 2<sup>nd</sup>  $\rightarrow$  Trace  $\rightarrow$  Value  $\rightarrow x = 2$  Answer = 0.693

$\ln(x)$  is an alternative way of expressing  $\log_e x$ , and is pronounced "Lon x"

$y = \ln(x)$  and  $y = e^x$  are inverses of each other, and are reflected across the line  $y = x$ .