



Creating Expressions : Objects



To do almost anything you will have to enter an expression into LiveMath. Unfortunately, LiveMath does not come with voice recognition, which means you must type in your expression.

LiveMath comes with many templates available on the palette which you can use to enter your expression. You can also create these templates through keyboard shortcuts. Eventually you will need to type. There are several things to keep in mind:

- 1) The arrow keys and the tab key will move you around the templates.
- 2) Use your mouse to position the cursor when all else fails.
- 3) Parentheses will fix many typesetting frustrations.
- 4) Most everything is in the palette. However it may be hidden behind a mini pop-up menu.
- 5) LiveMath is expecting one object to be entered...the smallest object it can identify. If you want to enter more than one object in a particular position than use parentheses.



Names and Digits in Objects



For instance consider the expression $\frac{\text{tree}}{2}$.

You might expect that you need parentheses around tree because it is more than one character. However, LiveMath is looking for objects. r is a letter like t and there was no space between them, therefore, LiveMath thinks they are part of the same object. Same with the e's.

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---------------|---|
| t | r | e | e | $\frac{x}{y}$ | 2 |
|---|---|---|---|---------------|---|

$\frac{\text{tree}}{2}$

Of course, parentheses do not hurt, Use them wastefully.



Same with numbers. As long as you are typing keystrokes that keep building a single number LiveMath will continue to place all of it in a single position in a template.

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | . | 1 | 4 | / | 2 | 2 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

$\frac{3.14}{22}$



Now It's Your Turn... Follow the directions below to get hands on experience.



1.

Enter in the following expressions into their own statements:

1) $\frac{45.3}{\text{house}}$

2) $\frac{\text{fence}}{x + 4}$

3) $1 + \frac{11.76}{x y}$



There is a space between the x and y in 3) so that LiveMath treats x y as "x times y" and not a variable called "xy".