

The Objective

This test can be used to help teachers find the best initial placement for students who are new to the *Saxon Math* program. This test includes selected content from *Math 5/4*, *Math 6/5*, *Math 7/6*, *Math 8/7*, and *Algebra $\frac{1}{2}$* . Please note that this placement test is not infallible. It is simply one indicator that can be used to place students. The best placement for most students is to start the year in the textbook designed for students at that grade level (*Math 5/4* for fourth grade, *Math 6/5* for fifth grade, *Math 7/6* for sixth grade, *Math 8/7* for seventh grade, and *Algebra $\frac{1}{2}$* for eighth grade). Students who have missed math concepts in their previous study may be better served beginning one textbook level lower. Exceptional students, at either end of the spectrum, can be well served when they are placed at levels consistent with their competencies. This test is not intended for use with current Saxon students.

The Rules

1. Allow the student to work until he/she cannot complete any more problems.
2. The student may not use a calculator during the test.
3. The student should work independently without coaching or other assistance.
4. The student should show all of his/her work. Look over the student's work carefully as you grade the test.
5. Use the placement guide provided along with sound judgment to help you place the student in the most appropriate book.

The Score

- Fifteen or fewer correct from Questions 1–20 and the student is an average-to-accelerated fourth grader: Student may begin *Math 5/4*.
- Sixteen or more correct from Questions 1–20: Student may begin *Math 6/5*.
- Sixteen or more correct from Questions 1–20 and 16 or more correct from Questions 21–40: Student may begin *Math 7/6*.
- Sixteen or more correct from Questions 21–40 and 16 or more correct from Questions 41–60: Student may begin *Math 8/7*.
- Sixteen or more correct from Questions 41–60 and 16 or more correct from Questions 61–80: Student may begin *Algebra $\frac{1}{2}$* .
- Sixteen or more correct from Questions 61–80 and 16 or more correct from Questions 81–100: Student may begin *Algebra 1* or be given an additional test for possible placement in a higher-level text.

The math placement tests are only one tool used to place a student who is new to the *Saxon Math* program. You must also consider the student's age, previous curriculum, and how quickly the student grasps math concepts. If you need more information from a qualified *Saxon Math* teacher about specific circumstances, please email us at info@saxonhomeschool.com.