

Purchasing a Graphing Calculator

August 2015

To the Parents of students interested in purchasing a graphing calculator:

If you would like more information about any of the graphing calculators recommended, please read the information provided below or visit Texas Instruments' web site www.education.ti.com. Or, if you would like to talk with me, please contact me. Note that calculators can be purchased at Staples, Wal-Mart, K-Mart, many other stores, or online. Don't hesitate to shop around! The prices from store to store can vary greatly on graphing calculators.

Please keep your receipt for the graphing calculator! I believe that all TI calculators have a one year warranty. **And, please cut out the bar code off of the calculator's package and turn it in to me.** After I collect enough bar codes (which can take several years), I can send them in to obtain technology for classroom use. I appreciate every bar code you turn in!

Thank you,
Mrs. Osterloh
osterloh@fortrecoveryschools.org
419-375-4111

How is a person to decide which calculator to buy? I will try to help you narrow your choices...

- Do NOT buy these graphing calculators:
 - TI-81, TI-85 (not in production anymore)
 - TI-82, TI-83 (too slow)
 - TI-86, TI-Nspire CX (not compatible with what is used in class)
 - TI-92, Voyage 200, TI-89, TI-89 Titanium, TI-Nspire CX CAS (can not be used on the ACT)
 - Any brand other than Texas Instrument, or TI (not compatible with what is used in class)
- Usable in class, but not best choice:
 - **TI-83 Plus** (faster than TI-83 b/c has 7 times as much memory as the TI-83)
 - **TI-83 Plus Silver** (2.5 times faster than TI-83 Plus; connects to comp. using TI-Graph Link)
 - TI-Nspire with Clickpad (compatible but wears down batteries quickly)
 - TI-Nspire with Touchpad (must e-mail TI to request compatible TI-84 keypad separately)
- Recommended calculators:
 - **TI-84 Plus** (3 times the memory of the TI-83 Plus; connects to computer using USB cable)
 - **TI-84 Plus Silver Edition** (9 times the memory of the TI-83 Plus; connects to computer using USB cable; Mrs. Osterloh uses this graphing calculator)
 - **TI-84 Plus C Silver Edition** (same as above but graphs are color-coded; Mrs. Osterloh uses this graphing calculator also)

Most likely a good choice also...

- **TI-84 Plus CE** (graphs are color-coded; slimmer design; new in stores summer 2015)