

## Using the CX keypad (Tutorial A1)

[http://www.atomiclearning.com/k12/en/movie/85834/play\\_window?type=Tutorial&sid=2410](http://www.atomiclearning.com/k12/en/movie/85834/play_window?type=Tutorial&sid=2410)

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The TI-Nspire CX handheld has a unique keypad layout that allows you to execute many functions very easily and quickly.

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In the upper-right corner, you can see the Home key. You can use this key to access the Home screen at any time.

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Here you can Insert a new application, create or open a document, change settings, and open a scratch pad for performing

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quick calculations and graphs. In the top-center of the keypad is the Touchpad. The Touchpad functions like a trackpad

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of a laptop, allowing you to drag your finger across it to move the cursor and drag items. There are several directional

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keys on the edges of the Touchpad that allow you to move your highlight, cursor, or object around on the screen

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as well. The key in the center of the Touchpad is called the Click button. This allows you to select items or highlighted

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objects. In addition, you can also make selections by pressing the corresponding number on the keypad that appears next

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to the item. Along the bottom of the Home Screen are applications you can add to a new document. I'll highlight each one

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by pressing the right arrow key. First we have the Calculator application, followed by Graphs, Geometry, Lists & Spreadsheet,

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Data & Statistics, Notes, and the Vernier DataQuest application for collecting data. The Enter key is used to evaluate

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expressions, execute instructions, or select menu items. I'll insert the Calculator application. . . Below the Home

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key is the Doc key. Pressing this shows a menu with several items, including the File and Edit menus. I want to change

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the Page Layout here, so I'll choose Page Layout, Select Layout, Layout 2. Now I can see another work area for my

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new application. You can tell which application is active by the black highlight. We can see that the Calculator

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application is currently active. To the left of the Touchpad is the Tab key. The Tab key is used for navigation in calculator

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templates as well as navigation in Graphs, Geometry and Data & Statistics. I can press Ctrl and then the Tab key

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to switch focus to the new work area. Notice the black highlight switches. I'll press Menu and insert the Graphs

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application into a new work area. I'll press Ctrl-Tab to move back to the Calculator application. Below the Doc

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key is the Menu key. This brings up an application specific menu from which you can choose the action or function you'd

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like to access. Any menu item that has an arrow next to it has more options in it. I'll choose Number, Fraction

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Tools to reveal the Fraction Tools available. If I wanted to access one of these features, I could choose it here.

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I can make a selection from this menu by highlighting it, and then pressing the Click button to return it to the

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Calculator entry line. In the upper- left corner is the Escape key. You can use this key to cancel some actions

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in the entry line or to exit top-level menus. You can also use the Escape key to back up in submenus. I'll press the

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Menu key, then choose Number, Number Tools. If I want to back up to the Number menu, I can press the Escape key

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once, and I'll move back to that menu. If I keep pressing Escape, I'll eventually move out of the menus and back

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to the Calculator entry line. The button below the Escape key brings up the scratchpad. The scratchpad allows you

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to perform quick calculations and create graphs outside the documents. This can be helpful when you just want to

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test something before committing it to one of the applications, or when you want to brainstorm some quick ideas. Once you're

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done, press Escape to exit the Scratchpad and go back to your document. The Control key is the blue key on the left

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side of the keypad. You can use this in conjunction with the other keys on the keypad to access the functions and

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symbols displayed in blue above the key. I'll press Ctrl, and then the Menu key to open a context-specific menu. This

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menu will change based on what function or object I'm currently working on, and give me options related to that function

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or object. Here, you can see that I could do a variety of functions, such as copy and paste or insert variables

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and symbols. I'll press the Trigonometry key, and then choose Sin by highlighting it and pressing the Click button

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in the center of the Touchpad. If you need to undo an action you've performed, you can press Ctrl, and then the Esc

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key. This will undo the Sin that I entered into the Calculator. As you can see, there are many more functions you can access

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using the keys. You can learn about some of these features and commands within each application by watching additional

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tutorials.

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