

## Using the TI-Nspire™ with Touchpad keypad (Tutorial A2)

[http://www.atomiclearning.com/k12/en/movie/85835/play\\_window?type=Tutorial&sid=2410](http://www.atomiclearning.com/k12/en/movie/85835/play_window?type=Tutorial&sid=2410)

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

[00:00:09.00] 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

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performing quick calculations and graphs. You can make selections dragging your finger across the Touchpad to

[00:00:35.00] roll over an option, and then pressing the Click key in the center to select it, or by using the arrows around the

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edge of the Touchpad to highlight the selection and then pressing the Enter key, or by pressing the number next

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to the selection. The Enter key is used to evaluate expressions, execute instructions, or select menu items. I'll insert

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the Calculator application. . . Below the Home key is the Doc key. Pressing this shows a menu with several items,

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including the File and Edit menus. I want to change the Page Layout here, so I'll choose Page Layout, Select Layout,

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Layout 2. Now I can see another work area for my new application. You can tell which application is active by the black highlight.

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The Calculator application is currently active, but I can switch focus by pressing Ctrl, and then the Tab key. Notice

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the highlight switches. I'll press Menu and insert the Graphs application into a new work area. I'll press

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Ctrl-Tab to move back to the Calculator application. Below the Doc key is the Menu key. This brings up an application

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specific menu from which you can choose the action or function you'd like to access. Any menu item that has an arrow next

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to it has more options in it. I'll choose Number, Fraction Tools to reveal the Fraction Tools available. If I wanted

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to access one of these features, I could choose it here. In the top-center of the keypad is the Touchpad. The Touchpad

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functions like a trackpad of a laptop, allowing you to drag your finger across it to move the cursor and drag

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items. There are several directional keys on the edges of the Touchpad that allow you to move your highlight, cursor, or object

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around on the screen as well. For example, I can use the up and down arrows in this menu to highlight different

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options within it. I can drag my finger across the Touchpad to move the cursor to a different option, just like you would

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on a computer. The key in the center of the Touchpad is called the Click button. This allows you to select items

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or highlighted objects. I can make a selection from this menu by highlighting it, and then pressing the Click button

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to return it to the Calculator entry line. In some cases I can grab an object by holding the Click key down for

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a few seconds until it becomes a closed hand. In the upper- left corner is the Escape key. You can use this key to

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cancel some actions in the entry line or to exit top-level menus. You can also use the Escape key to back up in submenus.

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

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

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and back to the Calculator entry line. The button below the Escape key brings up the scratchpad. The scratchpad

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allow you to perform quick calculations and create graphs outside the documents; this can be helpful when you just

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want to test something before committing it to one of the applications, or when you want to brainstorm some quick

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ideas. Once you're done, press Escape to exit the Scratchpad and go back to your document. The Control key is the blue

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

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the functions and symbols displayed in blue on or above the key. I'll press Ctrl, and then the Menu key to open

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a context-specific menu; this menu will change based on what function or object I'm currently working on, and give

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me options related to that function or object. Here, you can see that I could do a variety of functions, such as

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copy and paste or insert variables and symbols. I'll press the Trigonometry key, and then choose Sin by highlighting it

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and pressing the Click button in the center of the Touchpad. If you need to undo an action you've performed, you can press

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Ctrl, and then the Esc key. This will undo the Sin that I entered into the Calculator. As you can see, there are

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many more functions you can access using the keys. You can learn about some of these features and commands within

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each application by watching additional tutorials.

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