

Using the keypad (Tutorial A1)

http://www.atomiclearning.com/k12/en/movie/35637/play_window?type=Tutorial&sid=1670

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

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

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a new application, create or open a document, change settings, and view hints for operating the handheld. You can make selections

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either by using the arrow keys and pressing the Enter key in the lower-right corner, or by pressing the number next to the selection.

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

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

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

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Fraction Tools available. If I wanted to access one of these features, I could choose it here. In the top-center of the keypad is the

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NavPad. The directional keys of the NavPad allow you to move your highlight, cursor, or object around on the screen. For example,

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I can use the up and down arrow keys in this menu to highlight different options. The key in the center of the NavPad is called

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the Click button. This allows you to select items or highlight objects. I can make a selection from this menu by highlighting

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it, and then pressing the Click button to return it to the Calculator entry line. In some cases I can grab an object by holding the

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

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to 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 Numbers, Number Tools. If I want to back up to the Numbers menu, I can press the Escape

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

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Calculator entry line. The Control key is the blue key on the left side of the keypad. You can use this in conjunction with

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the other keys on the keypad to access the functions displayed in blue on or above the key. I'll press Ctrl, and then the Home

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key to access the Tools menu. This shows several items, including the File and Edit menus. I want to change the Page Layout here,

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so I'll choose Page Layout, Select Layout, Layout 2. Now I can see another work area for a new application. You can tell which

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application is active from the black highlight. The Calculator application is currently active, but I can switch focus by pressing

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Ctrl, and then the Tab key. Notice the highlight switches. I'll press Menu and insert the Graphs & Geometry application into the

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new work area. I'll press Ctrl-Tab to move back to the Calculator application, and then I'll press the Sin key. If you need to undo

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an action you've performed, you can press Ctrl, and then the Esc key. This will undo the Sin that I entered into the Calculator.

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You can bring up a contextual menu in many places by pressing Ctrl, and then the Menu key. Here, you can see that I could do

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a variety of functions, such as copy and paste or insert variables and symbols. As you can see, there are many more functions you

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

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