

**CONCEPT** Standard four function calculators are ok for day-to-day operations, but what about when you need to graph linear equations or solve complicated engineering or financial formulas? This is when you need a robust scientific calculator!

## BACKGROUND

The scientific calculator is a type of electronic calculator designed to perform advanced mathematical calculations, including trigonometry, logarithms and exponentiation. The first scientific calculator was developed in the late 1960s by Hewlett-Packard (HP). The HP-35 was the first pocket calculator that could perform trigonometric and exponential functions. At a cost of just under \$400, it quickly became popular with scientists and engineers.

In the 1970s and 1980s, other companies, such as Texas Instruments and Casio, began to produce their own scientific calculators. These calculators were larger and more expensive than the basic four-function calculators commonly used at the time, but they were able to perform a much wider range of calculations. Since then, scientific calculators have become smaller, cheaper and more powerful. Many scientific calculators can now perform complex calculations with just a few keystrokes, and they are an essential tool for students and professionals in a variety of fields.

## EXAMPLES

There are several quality brands of scientific calculators on the market. Some of the more well-known brands include Texas Instruments, Casio and HP.

