

## TO THE STUDENT

Your graphing calculator will provide you with an inexpensive and fun tool to use to enhance your understanding and exploration of calculus.

- Your calculator will not automatically give you all the answers. It will do what you tell it to do and will not replace your ‘thinking through’ a problem. You must understand both the calculus and what your calculator is capable of doing to use it advantageously.
- You must do homework and practice mathematics to succeed in mathematics. This sounds like a broken record but mathematics is a skill and skills require practice. There will be some bumps in the road as you learn to do calculus and use your calculator. Don’t get discouraged the first time you encounter adversity.
- If something doesn’t seem right check your calculator settings. For example, are you in statistical mode when you want to be in function mode? Are your statistical plots turned off? Did you enter the function correctly? Are you using the calculator commands correctly? Did you run the correct program and answer the prompts correctly? Do you have a “)” for every “(”? Your calculator will keep track of them even if you don’t! If something is wrong, change it and go on. If you become frustrated turn the calculator off and start again later.
- If you have access to a GRAPHLINK you can save yourself some time and effort by downloading the programs used in this text. They can be found at:

<http://www.mhhe.com/smithminton/>

and are listed by calculator.

- Written work should be neat, legible and correct both mathematically and in usage of the English language. Try to make it not only neat but also professional in appearance. This is good practice for future jobs. If you are turning in the pages of this manual make sure to work your answers on other paper first and use the manual itself for the final version.