

Avoid Error with Negatives and Use Error Screen Classic view

Objectives:

- Avoid a common Error with Negative versus Subtract
- Use an Error Screen to Fix Mistakes

Avoid a Common Error with Negative versus Subtract

 means subtract.

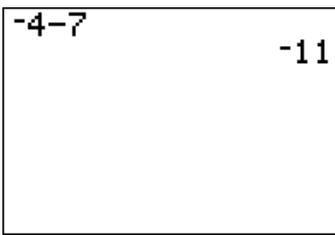
 is used before a number to make it negative.

CAUTION: Do not mix these up or you'll get an error (or wrong calculation)!

Remember:  is used as an equal sign.

Example 1: Calculate. $-4 - 7 = -11$

Press these buttons:     

See this screen: 

Notice on your screen that the negative  is smaller and higher than the subtract .

Example 2: Do the same calculation wrong and get an error screen: $-4 - 7$

Press these buttons:     

You'll get an error screen like this: 

Don't press anything yet! Let's look at this screen more closely.

Use an Error Screen to Fix Mistakes

- Graphing calculators have several error screens.
- They all say “ERR:”, an abbreviation for “Error”.
- Sometimes the error screen will tell you what you did wrong. If so, use it!
- “SYNTAX” means you typed something wrong. The syntax error screen has a menu.

- If you press  for “Goto”, the calculator will go to the error by putting the cursor over the entry you typed wrong, like this:

Example 3: Use the error screen to identify the mistake.

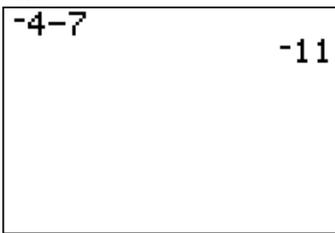
While viewing the error screen from Example 2, press this button: 

See this screen: 

This means the second  is a mistake!

Example 4: Type the correct key on top of the error to finish the calculation correctly.

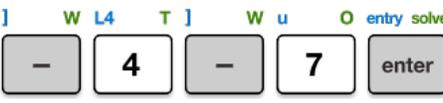
Press these buttons: 

See this screen: 

NOTE You can press  to Quit the error screen, but you won't get help with your error!

Try It!

1) Make a different error in the same calculation $-4 - 7$.

Press these buttons. 

Answer:

1) The first  should be . Using  made the calculator assume subtractions.