

What do I need on the final?

The formula, and how to read it

The formula

$$\text{Needed on the final} = (\text{target} - \text{current} \times (1 - \text{final weight})) / \text{final weight}$$

Weights as decimals: a final worth 30 per cent is 0.30. The current grade is the weighted average of everything graded so far.

Worked example

You are at 78 per cent. The final is worth 30 per cent. You are aiming for 82 overall. The answer is 91.33 per cent on the final.

Work graded so far covers 70% of the course; 30% is still to come.

Points already banked: $78\% \times 70\% = 54.6$ points of the 100 available.

To finish at 82% you still need 27.4 points from the remaining 30%.

$27.4 \div 30 \times 100 = 91.33\%$ on what is left.

Reading the answer

- Above 100: the target is not reachable on the final alone. Work out what is.
- Below 0: the target is already secured whatever happens on the final.
- Between: that is the score needed, and it assumes no other marks change.

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Free, no account, works on a phone. Shows every step of the arithmetic.

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