

Compound Interest $A = P\left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{nt}$

A = amount after t years
 P = principal invested
 R = annual interest rate
 n = number of compounding periods each year.

An investment account pays 5.4% annual interest compounded quarterly. If \$4000 is placed in this account, find the balance after 8 years.

Understand
 Find the balance of the account after 8 years.

Plan
 Use the compound interest formula.
 $P = 4000, r = 0.054, n = 4, \text{ and } t = 8$

Solve

$A = P\left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{nt}$	Compound Interest Formula
$= 4000\left(1 + \frac{0.054}{4}\right)^{4 \cdot 8}$	$P = 4000, r = 0.054,$ $n = 4, \text{ and } t = 8$
≈ 6143.56	Use a calculator.

Answer: The balance in the account after 8 years will be \$6143.56.

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Real-World Example 2 Write an Exponential Function

$y = ab^x$ initial amount

A. POPULATION In 2010, the population of Phoenix was 1,445,632. By 2015, it was estimated at 1,563,025. Write an exponential function that could be used to model the population of Phoenix. Write x in terms of the numbers of years since 2010.

At the beginning of the timeline in 2010, x is 0 and the population is 1,445,632. Thus, the y -intercept, and the value of a , is 1,445,632.

When $x = 5$, the population is 1,563,025. Substitute these values into an exponential function to determine the value of b .

Real-World Example 2 Write an Exponential Function

$(x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2)$

$y = ab^x$ Exponential function

$1,563,025 = 1,445,632 \cdot b^5$ Replace x with 5, y with 1,563,025, and a with 1,445,632.

$1.0812 \approx b^5$ Divide each side by 1,445,632.

$\sqrt[5]{1.0812} = b$ Take the 5th root of each side.

$1.0157 \approx b$ Use a calculator.

Answer: An equation that models the number of years is $y = 1,445,632(1.0157)^x$.

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Write an exponential function for the graph that passes through the points (0, 3) and (4, 81).

$$a = 3 \quad y = a(b)^x$$

$$\frac{81}{3} = \frac{3(b)^4}{3}$$

$$\sqrt[4]{27} = \sqrt[4]{b^3}$$

$$2.28 = b$$

$$y = 3(2.28)^x$$

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