Solving a mathematical assignment has two parts:

1. The discovery phase. This is the time you spent trying to figure out how to solve the problems, and it often takes most of the time. You are welcome and encouraged to collaborate with other students in this phase. Collaboration is a healthy practice, and this is how mathematics is done in real life.

2. The write-up phase. This consists of writing your solutions once you have an idea of how the problem can be solved. You should do this entirely by yourself or with your one partner (if you are submitting as a team of two). Be alone when you write your solutions. If you collaborate with anybody else on this part, or you copy part of your solutions from somebody else, or you have notes written by somebody else in front of you when you write your solutions, or you use a draft or sketch that you wrote in collaboration with somebody else, you are engaging in academic misconduct. If you share your solutions with other students, then you are both committing academic misconduct.

If you submit as a team of two then the same rules apply. In addition, you may not “split the tasks”. You must work on all aspects together in both the discovery and writing phases. Both of you should solve problems together and debate the solutions. One of you may write up a draft of a solution but both of you should understand, review, and edit every solution. Doing otherwise amounts to academic misconduct for both of you.

Remember that Academic Integrity is one of the major learning goals of the course. If you don’t follow the above instructions when you submit an assignment, even once, then you have failed our Academic Integrity Test. If you are in doubt, ask us. You will never get in trouble for asking for clarifications on what is or isn’t acceptable.