

Group theory is not a prerequisite for this course. Therefore the homework for tonight acknowledges that many students need some time to study the basics of groups.

A. Read at least the first two sections (Groups and Homomorphisms) in the Groups tutorial on our course web site. If you've studied group theory, then a skimming might be all you need, but skimming will at least focus your attention on the basic concepts that we'll be using. If you've never studied group theory, then I recommend that you examine the examples carefully, to see how they illustrate the definitions and theorems. You might want to do the exercises, but I am not asking you to hand them in.

B. Section 52 Exercise 1. (This is a short exercise.)

C. Section 52 Exercise 2. (This is a medium-length exercise.)

Section 52 Exercises 3 and 4 are great. Maybe I'll assign them as part of the next homework.