

Assessment How-To

What Is in the Assessments Folder?

- * **Assessment How-To:** Instructions for creating a customized assessment
(file name: *Assess How-To.pdf*)
- * **Assessment Template:** Use to create a customized assessment
(file names: *Assess Template_Unit K.docx*, *Assess Template_Unit 1.docx*)
- * **Assessment Item Banks**
 - Assessment tasks for Unit K
 - Pre- and post-assessment items and answer keys for Unit 1
(file names: *Assess Item Bank_Unit K.docx*, *Assess Item Bank_Unit 1.docx*)

Suggestions for Using the Assessments

Math Pathways & Pitfalls provides multiple opportunities for assessment. Most important, class discussions provide feedback to teachers about their students' progress. Also, the mini lesson in Unit 1 provides students with opportunities to articulate their understanding and learn important test-taking skills. Similarly, the customized assessments that you create are not to be thought of as ends in themselves but as ways to check students' progress and to inform further teaching.

The items in the Assessment Item Banks are correlated with the lessons and can be used as a diagnostic tool. They may also be used as a checkup after teaching some of the lessons or for post-assessment.

Assessments of Unit K concepts can be informally and periodically conducted by the teacher. The Assessment Template for Unit K includes a student checklist so you can record each student's progress over time. The Assessment Item Bank and Template for Unit 1 can be used to create customized assessments that formally assess students' understanding before and/or after lessons.

Specific suggestions for using the Unit 1 assessments to motivate and assess learning are provided in the Getting Started section of the *Math Pathways & Pitfalls* teaching manual.

How to Make a Customized Assessment

Everything you need to make a customized assessment is contained in the Assessments Folder. Follow these steps:

Open the Files

Open the Assessment Template file and one Assessment Item Bank file.

View both files onscreen, side by side.

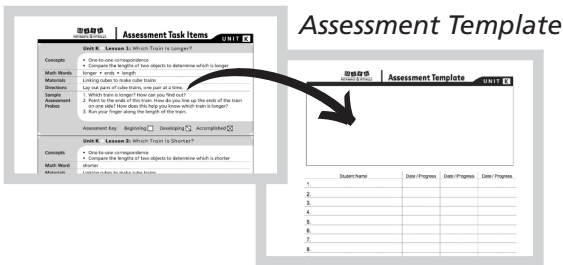
Select, Drag, and Drop Assessment Items

Select and drag a problem from the Assessment Item Bank to the Assessment Template.

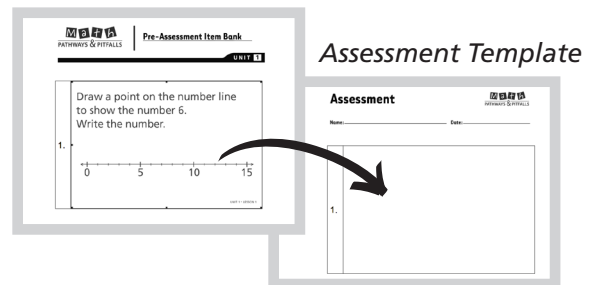
Unit K: Drop one item into the box at the top of the Assessment Template to assess the concepts related to one lesson. Type in the names of your students.

Unit 1: Drop each item into the box to the right of the problem number in any order you choose.

Assessment Item Bank



Assessment Item Bank



Delete an Item

Delete any problem by highlighting the problem (and its number), then pressing the Backspace key. The problem will be deleted on your customized assessment, but it will permanently remain in the Assessment Item Bank.

Change the Order

To change the order in a Unit 1 assessment, select and drag a problem to a different location.

Create Your Own Items

The items in the Assessment Item Banks cannot be modified, but you can create your own items by typing a new problem into an empty item box in the Assessment Template.

Expand the Number of Items on the Assessment

If there are not enough boxes for items on the Unit 1 Assessment Template, you can add more. Simply click in the box of the last problem, then press the tab key. A new box will appear and will be automatically numbered in sequence.

Save Your Customized Assessment

To save your customized assessment, select Save As from the File menu, name the file, then click Save. Don't worry! The information on the original assessment files cannot be permanently changed.