

## FEEDBACK 2006

- **Dr Brian A. Davey Reader and Associate Professor Mathematics,**  
La Trobe University

Students will find helpful reminders in the times tables, the geometric shapes and metric conversions.

But the thing that sets this ruler apart is the number line from -15 through 0 to 15.

It will be an invaluable tool in learning the concept of a negative number and in understanding why equations such as  $-3-4 = -7$ ,  $2-8 = -6$  and  $-3+4 = 1$  are true.

I highly recommend this ruler to all teachers and students in upper primary and lower secondary school.

## FEEDBACK 2025

- **Access and Diverse Learning Program Leader** - Brigidine College, 53 Ward St, Indooroopilly, QLD 4068

M.A.D. MATHS resources have been fantastic tools to use in our Numeracy support classes.

Students have ready access to the times tables and formulas as well as having a measurement tool at their fingertips.

Comment from a teacher new to the school this year:

"Oh wow — these are fantastic - can't wait to start using these in our Numeracy support classes".

I would highly recommend purchasing resources from M.A.D. MATHS Educational Products to enhance not only your teaching, but the access of your students to learning Mathematics.

One of my Learning Support teachers has given me another comment to send through to you.

These rulers enable students to discreetly access information that they need to solve Maths problems, without needing to spend energy and time trying to retrieve the number facts required. This frees up cognitive space for them to engage more effectively with the problem itself.

Students request these rulers every lesson, and when focusing on practising number facts, they have been a helpful tool for visual reinforcement of patterns.

- **Head Of Department** - Dimbulah State School P-10, 48-50 Kennedy St, Dimbulah, QLD 4872

M.A.D rulers are useful and given to all year 5 and 6 students to use during Math lesson to assist with number facts, measurement and integers. Students have a concrete tool to help them learn and feel more confident when doing the lesson.

Teachers appreciate the usefulness of the information provided on the ruler. Students leave on the desks and use it during the day.

Thank you for this resource!

- **Head of Learning and Curriculum/Head of Maths** - St Philip's College, 2 Ulpaya Rd, Alice Springs, NT 0870

Since well before my time, from 2006, St Philip's College in Alice Springs have been utilising the services of M.A.D Maths. Our favourite product are the rulers, that are students have used over the years in our Maths classrooms, as well as for prizes for participation in competitions and events.

There are so many features that help our students, and by looking at formulas and facts constantly, it helps students to cement their learning. Our students who need a little bit more support enjoy the times table rulers, so that they can check their facts along the way. Our senior students appreciate the formula ruler where they can have little snippets of everything that could be helpful along the way. Many facts are assumed knowledge as students learn more senior levels of Maths, and being able to have a variety of facts handy is very helpful. The rulers are really durable and last a long time, and our classroom sets are well taken care of.

For a number of years we have also had a number of the PVC posters in our classrooms, along the top of the whiteboards and down the sides. Students find them helpful to refer to (as do the teachers), especially when a demonstration is needed in class. They stick up well with bluetack (even in our hot weather) and are easy to move around.

- **Coordinator Learning Enrichment** -The Rockhampton Grammar School, Archer St, Rockhampton, QLD 4700

We recently purchased some rulers and banners for our tutorial department. They have been very well received by teachers and students. Great products!

- **Learning Specialist Numeracy** - Parkdale Secondary College, Warren Rd, Mordialloc, VIC 3195

I have used the M. A. D. rulers for a number of years. They not only help to rule lines but also are a great resource for Maths classes. The number line is very useful when introducing negative numbers. The shapes with the formulas are a constant reminder and a good reference point. I love the formulas and conversions on the back of one of the rulers. I have used these with every year level from Year 7 to Year 12. The times tables on the other ruler are great especially for students who struggle with these - a convenient ready reckoner for times tables. These rulers last a long time and they are a great investment for any Maths class.

- **Assistant Director of Learning Enrichment** - Mercedes College, 540 Fullarton Rd, Springfield, S.A 5062

This feedback is specifically about the 7-10 ruler, which is used for our Middle and Senior School students.

A key highlight of these rulers is that they are an easy, stigma-free maths visual support, that students can readily access and keep in their pencil cases. The positive and negative numbers are very helpfully delineated with colours (red and black) that match associated colours in other subjects (ie: accounting).

When students are having difficulty with subtracting negative numbers, we have turned the ruler vertically and asked them to imagine it as a temperature gauge/thermometer. In this case, teachers have reminded students which direction they would move if it was already -4 degrees, and the temperature dropped a further 2 degrees. This has helped with confusion about which way the numbers are moving in these subtraction problems.

When a student or teacher is holding the ruler flat in front of them, it can easily be flipped over (turned 180 degrees) and is still

facing/oriented the correct way. This makes it very convenient to flip back and forth to each side without having to turn/rotate the ruler end to end

Our students feel a sense of security and confidence knowing how many formulae are on the rulers for quick reference. Most frequently, they refer to the area/perimeter formulae, the linear graph equations and Pythagoras. They feel more confident to focus on the maths questions at hand, without worrying that they may forget key formulae or equations.

It has been useful for students, with varying abilities and confidence in maths, to access and utilise these rulers for homework and class tasks. Our students have enjoyed having their own ruler for quick reference, and have found the equations useful and applicable over several years of mathematical curriculum.

We would highly recommend these rulers for individual students, or for whole-classes, as a practical, long-lasting and high quality visual support. Where schools utilise booklists, it would be beneficial to add this as a recommended purchase, especially for Middle and Senior school students.

- **Head of Mathematics** - ST HILDA'S ANGLICAN SCHOOL FOR GIRLS, 26 Bayview Tc, Mosman Park, W.A 6012

The classes that they are being used with are students who experience some difficulty in Maths with some of the fundamental skills in number. As secondary school students, whilst we also have a focus on improving these skills, we also still need to cover key aspects of the curriculum. I have observed within the classes, where the rulers are being used at this stage for number work, that they have helped in reducing some of the anxiety of "not having a number line" available to use and have helped with the confidence to attempt questions involving positive and negative numbers. The teachers who have those classes are glad of this resource to support their students.

- **Dyscalculia specialist** - Shirley Houston

The M.A.D. Maths rulers (Yrs1-7 and 7-10) are a great support for the Maths learning of my students who have dyscalculia - they put in their immediate environment Maths information not in their heads. Many of these students are slow to develop a mental number line. The front of the rulers provide them with a linear visual of integers, the negative

numbers in red. Number fact recall is another common weakness of students with dyscalculia. Students can use the ruler number line to do addition and subtraction. The Yr 1-7 ruler has the multiplication tables on the flip side, making both multiplication and division easier. Formulae are hard to recall if there is limited understanding of Mathematical symbols and procedures in Maths. The rulers support Yr 1-7 students with dyscalculia by providing a number of formulae: area, perimeter and circumference. The Yr 7-10 ruler provides the formulae for volume and area of quadrilaterals and spheres. Both rulers provide charts for conversion of units of measurement. The Yr 1-7 also provides key conversions of fractions to decimals and percentages on the flip side. The flip side of the Yr 7-10 ruler provides the order of BODMAS, and formulae for work with indices, algebraic equations, Pythagoras theorem and linear graphs. It provides the trigonometric ratios and the vocabulary for statistical analysis.

These rulers reduce the load on working memory because the 'mechanics' are separated from the problem-solving. Students who have dyscalculia are not known for their organisational skills so it is a huge advantage to have essential information for Maths all stored in one place - the ruler. A ruler can be so much more than a tool for drawing lines and making small measurements. The clever design of the M.A.D. Maths rulers makes them great value for money. And they're Australian made!