

16.4 – Compound Interest

Compound Interest Formula

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

A = balance after "t" years

P = original amount invested

r = interest rate in decimal form

n = number of times per year interest is compounded

t = number of years interest is compounded

Change the following percents into decimal form.

* move decimal
2 places left.

1. 25%

.25

2. 10.5%

.105

3. 4.5%

.045

Examples:

1. The amount of \$500 is deposited into an account that pays 9.5% compounded monthly. What is the balance in the account after 3 years?

$$P = 500$$

$$r = .095$$

$$n = 12$$

$$t = 3$$

$$A = 500 \left(1 + \frac{.095}{12} \right)^{12(3)}$$

$$A = 664.135$$

$$\$664.14$$

2. How much would you deposit in an account that pays 6.5% interest, compounded semi-annually, to have a balance of \$5000 in 15 years?

$$A = 5000$$

$$r = .065$$

$$n = 2$$

$$t = 15$$

$$5000 = P \left(1 + \frac{.065}{2} \right)^{2(15)}$$

$$P = 1915.438$$

$$\$1915.44$$