1. Use quick rules to compute derivatives that involve unknown or abstract functions.

2. Get used to formulas that have three different kinds of symbols:
   
   - A letter that is the input variable for a function.
   - Letters that are constants.
   - Letters that represent unknown functions.

3. Begin learning how to tell which of these three roles is correct for any letter in any problem.
   
   - Many problems will include specific statements about which letters are constants and which letters are functions.
   - Leibniz notation always tells you which letter is the input letter for a function. For example, if you see \( \frac{d}{dt} \) you know that \( t \) is the input variable for whatever you are differentiating.

4. Learn how to type abstract derivatives in WebAssign answers. There are two ways that will work. Here are the two ways to input the derivative of an abstract function, \( f \), with input variable \( x \).
   
   - Use prime notation, \( f' \). To do this type the letter \( f \), then use a single quote. On most keyboards the quote symbol is right next to the [Enter] key.
     
     NOTE: Some devices may not allow this input. If that happens, use method 2 below.
   
   - Type the full Leibniz notation, \( \frac{df}{dx} \). WebAssign will be happiest if you type a space before and after.

**Warning.** Some problems will require more than one abstract derivative in the answer. You cannot mix notations inside a WebAssign answer box.