

Student Struggled in Algebra 1 or Geometry (non-Saxon courses)

For students who have completed Algebra 1 and Geometry, but they struggled.

Dr. Shormann recommends these students take [Shormann Algebra 1 with Integrated Geometry](#). Learning Algebra 2 requires fluency (speed and accuracy) in both Geometry and Algebra 1 skills. Students who use a traditional public school format that teaches math in "chunks" of Algebra 1 and Geometry spend at least one year without practicing either geometry or algebra. This makes it difficult for them to learn Algebra 2 (this is true of all Algebra 2 courses, not just Shormann Math). Therefore, if your student struggled in either of these courses, Dr. Shormann recommends taking Shormann Algebra 1 to develop fluency in both the algebra and geometry concepts needed to successfully learn Algebra 2.

If I retake Algebra 1 using Shormann Math, how should I list it on my transcript?

If needed, you can list Shormann Algebra 1 as Advanced Algebra on your transcript. Keep in mind, after completing Shormann Algebra 2, your student has learned all the concepts for the PSAT, SAT, and ACT, as well as the CLEP College Algebra exam. Students who pass this exam can earn up to three college credits **AND** list one credit of College Algebra on their transcript.

Can I skip some of the lessons in Shormann Algebra 1?

The problem with skipping the algebra and only doing the geometry lessons, is that the student will lose fluency in algebraic skills, making it harder to learn the geometry in Algebra 1 and harder to understand Algebra 2. [Shormann Algebra 1](#) teaches computer math, technology applications (ie: Geometer's Sketchpad, spreadsheets, etc), and Algebra 1 level PSAT, SAT, and ACT concepts not taught in a traditional Algebra 1 curriculum. Therefore, to develop the fluency required to learn Algebra 2, we recommend all students start with Lesson 1 and complete all lessons as instructed.

Will my student be bored if they take Shormann Algebra 1?

No. [Shormann Algebra 1](#) has many concepts not found in standard Algebra 1 courses, but are required to excel on the PSAT, SAT, and ACT. Teaching the concepts required for ½ credit of geometry, Shormann Algebra 1 requires the student to apply algebra to geometry. Even if some concepts were learned in the previous Algebra 1 course, fluency (speed and accuracy) was probably not achieved because most courses do not provide continual practice (daily practice of a concept over a long period of time). It's not enough to know how to solve a problem, they must do it quickly and accurately. This level of fluency is required to build on and apply the concept to a new situation, like science or standardized test questions (PSAT, SAT, and ACT). Like playing piano or pitching, daily practice of these skills, over and over, are required to develop fluency.

If I did well in Algebra 1, can I do only the geometry lessons in Shormann Algebra 1?

No. If the algebra lessons are skipped, the student will lose fluency in algebraic skills which makes it harder to learn Algebra 2. Also, Shormann Algebra 1 teaches many concepts not covered in most Algebra 1 courses, like computer math, technology applications (ie: Geometer's Sketchpad, spreadsheets, etc), and Algebra 1 level PSAT, SAT, and ACT concepts. Therefore, Dr. Shormann recommends all students start with Lesson 1 and do all the lessons and problems as instructed.