

Learning Goal(s): a) solve problems involving exponential equations graphically, including problems arising from real-world context.  
b) use graphing technology to find the  $x$ -value of an exponential function, for a given value of the function.

### 1.4.1: Applications of Exponential Functions

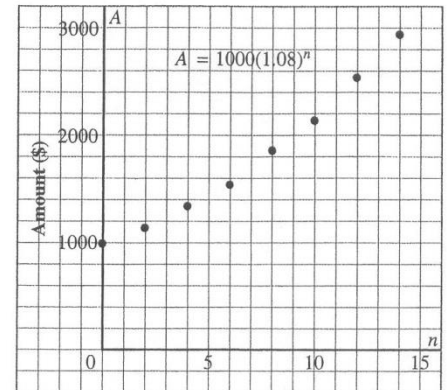
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Ex. 1 Suppose you invest \$1000 at 8% per year, compounded annually.

The amount,  $A$  dollars, of your investment after  $n$  years is represented by the equation  $A = 1000(1.08)^n$ .

Using the graph:

- Estimate the value of the investment after 5 years.
- Estimate how many years it takes for the investment to grow to \$2500.
- Describe how both the graph and the equation change in each case.
  - The original investment is greater than, or less than, \$1000.
  - The interest rate is greater than, or less than, 8%.



Ex. 2 Suppose you invest \$1000 at 8% per year, compounded *quarterly*.

- Estimate the value of the investment after 3 years.
- Estimate how many years it takes for the investment to grow to \$2800.

Ex. 3 A tire with a slow puncture loses pressure at the rate of 4%/min. The tire's initial pressure is 300 kPa.

- What is the tire's pressure after:
  - 1 min?
  - 2 min?
  - 10 min?
- Use graphing technology to determine when the tire's pressure will be:
  - 160 kPa
  - 120 kPa