

Year 12 Chapter 6B Q5 b)

The following illustration contains many useful techniques and things to watch out. Read all the notes carefully.

$$\because \cos 2x = 1 - 2 \sin^2 x$$

$$\therefore \sin^2 x = \frac{1 - \cos 2x}{2}$$

Likewise, $\sin^2 2x = \frac{1 - \cos 4x}{2}$ (by replacing x with $2x$)

$$\begin{aligned} I &= \int \sin^2 2x \, dx \\ &= \int \frac{1 - \cos 4x}{2} \, dx \\ &= \int \frac{1}{2} - \frac{\cos 4x}{2} \, dx \\ &= \int \frac{1}{2} \, dx - \frac{1}{2} \int \cos 4x \, dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2} x - \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{4} \sin 4x \right) + C \quad (\text{Must remove all } \int \text{ signs and add } C \text{ in the same step.}) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} x - \frac{1}{8} \sin 4x + C. \end{aligned}$$

Notes:

In order to use the formula $\int \cos x \, dx = \sin x + C$, the variable in \cos and the one in d must be the same, so we have to make up the factor 4.

You can imagine dx being replaced by $\frac{d(4x)}{4}$, so

$$\int \cos 4x \, dx = \int \cos 4x \frac{d(4x)}{4} = \frac{1}{4} \int \cos 4x \, d(4x) = \frac{1}{4} \sin 4x + C \quad (\text{now both } \cos \text{ and } d \text{ carry } 4x).$$

However, you are not allowed to write $d(4x)$, even it is correct in concept.

Therefore, in your work you need to skip the steps in between and write:

$$\int \cos 4x \, dx = \frac{1}{4} \sin 4x + C.$$

Alternatively, you can introduce a new variable $u = 4x$, so $du = 4dx$ and $dx = \frac{du}{4}$.

$$\begin{aligned} \int \cos 4x \, dx &= \int \cos u \frac{du}{4} = \frac{1}{4} \int \cos u \, du \quad (\text{now the variable in } \cos \text{ and the one in } d \text{ are the same}) \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \sin u + C = \frac{1}{4} \sin 4x + C. \end{aligned}$$

IMPORTANT:

The answer can only contain x , not u . So you need to change u back to the equivalent expression of x .