Advantages and Disadvantages of Using Technology

When asked what are the advantages and/or disadvantages of using technology in the classroom, faculty give various answers.

**Advantages**

- Helps develop visual/geometrical understanding.
- Can explore concepts before "hand" skills to do so are available.
- Can explore realistic problems.
- Strong request by colleges and universities.
- Enhances job opportunities for students.
- Allows students to concentrate on problem formulation and solution analysis.
- Easy to give math demos; introduces advanced mathematical ideas concretely.
- The technology forces students to consciously decide what operations to use.

**Disadvantages**

- Greater time needed for class preparation.
- Lack of familiarity with the computer and technology; fear of making syntactical errors in class.
- Lack of administrative recognition of increased teaching load.
- Decline of students' paper-and-pen skills.
- Technology syntax and rules are an unreasonable burdens on students.
- Learning curve is too steep; subtracts time from learning mathematics.
- The course can be victimized by equipment failure or inadequate equipment.