

# VHDL Compile Time Calculations

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- Compile time calculations
  - Executed during compilation – not effected by signal values
  - Are not synthesized – allow for more flexibility
  - Common functions and type conversions
    - May require `ieee.math_real.all`
    - `real` – convert an integer value to a real value
    - `integer` – convert a real value to an integer value
    - `log2` – provide the  $\log_2$ (real value)
    - `ceil` – round up to the next whole real value
    - `**` –  $x^{**}y \rightarrow x^y$
    - `sqrt` – returns the sqrt of a real value
    - ...

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- Examples
  - Calculate the maximum value of an N bit number  
 $(2^{**N} - 1)$
  - Calculate how many bits required to hold an integer value  
`integer(ceil(log2(real(int_val))))`