Getting Help in *Mathematica*

There are many ways to get more information about how to do things in *Mathematica*.
Below are a few of my favorite strategies.

Documentation

Go to the **Help** menu and select **Documentation Center**.
Browse the different categories.
Select the orange "More Information" box for explanations on how to use functions.
Look at examples and related links.
Tutorials and links to Demonstrations are available for many functions.

F1 Key

Click on a word (or highlight a word or symbol) anywhere in your code or output and press F1.
This will take you directly to the Documentation Center page for that word, function, or symbol.

? Function

For the basics about how to use a function, you can type ? followed by the function and evaluate it.
For example, type `?Graphics` or `?Plot` and evaluate it using shift-enter.
At the end of the output you will see >> that you can click to take you to the Documentation Center.
You can search for functions by including the variable * and then click on the list for more about one.
For example, type `?*Plot` and it will give you every function ending in Plot.
Try `?*Plus*` to see every function with Plus in it somewhere.

Options

Some functions have several options. To see what is available, evaluate `Options[`*function*`]` inserting the function you are interested in. For example, `Options[Graphics]` shows all of the options for Graphics along with their default values. `Options[Manipulate]` will also be useful.