

## Taylor's Theorem, Version 2

If all the derivatives of the function  $f$  up through  $f^{(N+1)}$  exist in an interval  $I$  containing the number  $a$ , then for all  $x$  in  $I$ ,

$$f(x) = T_N(x) + R_N(x),$$

where  $T_N$  is the  $N$ th-degree Taylor polynomial,

$$T_N(x) = \sum_{j=0}^N \frac{f^{(j)}(a)}{j!} (x - a)^j,$$

and there is some number  $z$  strictly between\*  $a$  and  $x$  such that

$$R_N(x) = \frac{f^{(N+1)}(z)}{(N+1)!} (x - a)^{N+1}.$$

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\* "Strictly between" means that either  $a < z < x$  or  $x < z < a$ , whichever is appropriate. Here is a fine point: If  $x = a$ , then there is no number strictly between them, so the theorem as stated is false. In that case, however,  $f(x)$  is **exactly** equal to  $T_N(x)$  (all of whose terms are zero except (possibly) the first ( $j = 0$ )).