MATLAB has a built-in routine called *fzero* that approximates roots of functions.

The syntax is

>>root = fzero(@f,x0)

where f.m is a function file defining the function whose root you want and x0 is an estimate of the value of the root.

For example, suppose you want to find a root of the equation $x - \cos(x) = 0$ near x = 0.

You would first create a function file containing the following three lines.

function y = f(x)

y = x - cos(x);

 end

Then, in the MATLAB command window, execute the following command.

>>root = fzero('f',0)