

Mathematics in your head – multiplication

1. Fundamentals: mental multiplication

Two by ones

$$20 \times 7 = 7 \times 2 \times 10 = 14 \times 10 = 140$$

$$23 \times 7 = 7 \times 20 + 7 \times 3 = 140 + 21 = 161$$

$$87 \times 8 = 8 \times 80 + 8 \times 7 = 640 + 56 = 640 + 50 + 6 = 690 + 6 = 696$$

$$53 \times 6 = 6 \times 50 + 6 \times 3 = 300 + 18 = 318$$

You try

$$87 \times 5$$

$$73 \times 6$$

More difficult

$$28 \times 9 = 9 \times 20 + 8 \times 9 = 180 + 72 = 200 + 52 = 252$$

You try

What is the area of a triangle with the base of 59” and height of 14”?

Using complements

$$7 \times 59 = 7 \times 60 - 7 = 420 - 7$$

$$78 \times 4 = 80 \times 4 - 2 \times 4 = 320 - 8$$

Distributive law

$$3 \times 87 = 261$$

$$3 \times 87 = 3 \times 80 + 3 \times 7 = 240 + 21 = 261$$

$$7 \times 324 = 7 \times 300 + 7 \times 20 + 7 \times 4 = 2100 + 140 + 28 = 2240 + 28 + 2268$$

Three by one problems

$$7 \times 300 = 2100$$

$$7 \times 320 = 7 \times 300 + 7 \times 20 = 2100 + 140 = 2240$$

$$7 \times 324 = 7 \times 300 + 7 \times 20 + 7 \times 4 = 2100 + 140 + 28 = 2240 + 28 + 2268$$

You try

How many days occur in a 6 year period?

When zero is in the middle, you can start saying your answer while calculating the rest

$$402 \times 9 = 36 \text{ hundred } 18$$

Same when there is one in the middle

$$812 \times 3 = 24 \text{ hundred } 36$$

When there is a 5 multiplied by an even number

$$521 \times 8 = 4 \text{ thousand } 21 \times 8 = 4000 + 160 + 1 \times 8 = 4168$$

$$925 \times 8 = 8 \times 900 + 25 \times 8 = 7200 + 200 = 7400$$

You try

$$789 \times 7 =$$

Another way

$$789 \times 7 = 800 \times 7 - 11 \times 7 =$$

2. Two by twos

Factorization

$$23 \times 16 = 23 \times 8 \times 2 = (160 + 24) \times 2 = 184 \times 2 = 368$$

Associative law of multiplication

$$23 \times 16 = 23 \times 4 \times 4 = 92 \times 4 = 360 + 8 = 368$$

You try

Suppose your phone service cost you \$59 per month, how much will you pay for one year?

Suppose a swimming pool is 14 ft by 14 ft by 7 ft. How many cubic feet is the volume of the pool?