

Using Two-Digit Numbers

- Read, write and understand the use of +, - and =
- Add and subtract one-digit and two-digit numbers

A Two-Digit Number and Ones

Adding a ones number (unit) to a two-digit number is easy! Always start with the larger number and count on **forwards** with the smaller number.

Example

$$54 + 7 = 61$$

This is the smaller number.

This is the larger number.

Find 54 on a number square or hold the number in your head. Now count forwards 7 ones to get 61.

Subtracting a ones number from a two-digit number is the same but in reverse. Always start with the larger number and count **backwards** with the smaller number.

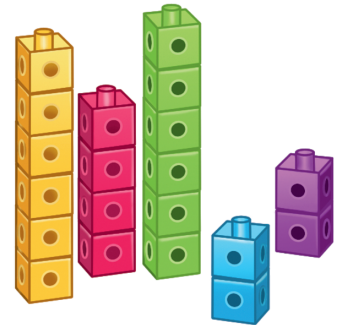
Example

$$54 - 7 = 47$$

This is the smaller number.

This is the larger number.

Find 54 on a number square or hold the number in your head. Now count backwards 7 ones to get 47.



Tip

You could draw your own number line to fit around any addition or subtraction sum you wish to solve.

Using Two Two-Digit Numbers

When a number problem uses two two-digit numbers, you break down the sum into tens and units.

Example

Start by adding just the tens:

$$\begin{array}{r} 43 + 26 = \\ \downarrow \quad \downarrow \\ 4 \text{ tens } 2 \text{ tens} \\ (= 40) (= 20) \end{array}$$

$$4 \text{ tens} + 2 \text{ tens} = 6 \text{ tens or } 40 + 20 = \mathbf{60}$$

Then add the units:

$$\begin{array}{r} 43 + 26 = \\ \downarrow \quad \downarrow \\ 3 \text{ units } 6 \text{ units} \\ 3 + 6 = \mathbf{9} \end{array}$$

Now add both of the answers together:

$$60 + 9 = \mathbf{69}$$

When you subtract a two-digit number from a two-digit number, start with the tens of the smaller number:

$$\begin{array}{r} 2 \text{ units} \\ \downarrow \\ 56 - \mathbf{42} = \\ \uparrow \\ 4 \text{ tens of the smaller number} \end{array}$$

Now count back 4 tens from the bigger number:

$$56 \text{ count back 4 tens: } 56 \quad 46 \quad 36 \quad 26 \quad \mathbf{16}$$

Finally, use your answer and count back the units:

$$16 - 2 = \mathbf{14}$$

Key Point

The first number in a two-digit number is the tens number and the second number is the ones/units number.

Key Point

You can only subtract a smaller number from a larger number.

Tip

Use a 100 square to help you count forwards and backwards in tens.



Quick Test

1. Solve these addition sums.

a) $33 + 4 = \underline{\quad}$ b) $82 + 9 = \underline{\quad}$

2. Solve these subtraction sums.

a) $87 - 5 = \underline{\quad}$ b) $76 - 4 = \underline{\quad}$

Key Words

- Forwards
- Backwards