



# Mathematical terms glossary

Mathematical terms commonly used in primary education.

Term	Definition
<b>Add, addition</b>	to join two or more numbers to get one. Other words for add; plus, increase, more than, total.
<b>Area</b>	the measure of the space within a shape, the size a shape takes up, measured in square units.
<b>Average</b>	the addition of all numbers, divided by how many numbers there are.
<b>BODMAS</b>	brackets first, orders (i.e. powers and square roots, etc.), division and multiplication (left-to-right), addition and subtraction (left-to-right).
<b>Commutative</b>	numbers may be added or multiplied together in any order.
<b>Compact form</b>	written as a number.
<b>Composite number</b>	a number that has more than just 1 and itself as factors. The first 6 composite numbers are 4, 6, 8, 9, 10 and 12. All even numbers except 0 and 2 are composites. Some odd numbers are composite and some are prime.
<b>Denominator</b>	the bottom number in a fraction.
<b>Divide</b>	to share a number into equal parts. Other words for divide: share, find the quotient.
<b>Equivalent fractions</b>	two fractions are equivalent if they represent exactly the same portion of the whole.
<b>Even number</b>	a whole number that is divisible by 2. For example: 0, 2, 4, 6, 8 and numbers ending in these.
<b>Expanded form</b>	to express a number in expanded form means to break it down into individual place values. For example: $32 = 3 \times 10 + 2 \times 1$
<b>Fraction</b>	part of a whole.
<b>Factor</b>	a number that divides evenly into another number. For example: 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 12 are all factors of 12.
<b>Hectare</b>	a metric measurement of land. 1 hectare = 10, 000 square metres.
<b>Improper fraction</b>	the numerator of an improper fraction is bigger than the denominator, and so represents a portion greater than 1 whole.

Term	Definition
<b>LCD (lowest common denominator)</b>	the smallest number into which the two denominators will divide into exactly.
<b>Mixed numeral</b>	a mixed numeral has a whole number as well as a fraction (for example, $1\frac{1}{2}$ )
<b>Multiple</b>	a multiple of a given number is obtained by multiplying it by a different whole number. For example, 24 is a multiple of 6 because it is the product of $6 \times 4$
<b>Multiply</b>	to repeatedly add the same number. Other words for multiply; times, lots of, product.
<b>Numeral</b>	a symbol used to represent a number.
<b>Odd number</b>	a whole number not divisible by 2. For example: 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 and numbers ending in these.
<b>Order of operation</b>	the order in which operations should be carried out. BODMAS
<b>Percent</b>	“per 100”, or, “out of 100”.
<b>Perimeter</b>	the distance around a shape.
<b>Place value</b>	the value of a number based on its position.
<b>Power</b>	a power is an index that shows how many times the number is multiplied by itself.
<b>Prime number</b>	a number that only has two different factors, 1 and itself. The first 10 prime numbers are 2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, 17, 19, 23, and 29.
<b>Proper fraction</b>	is a fraction in which the numerator is a smaller than the denominator.
<b>Remainder</b>	what is left after a division.
<b>SI Unit</b>	the international system of units, units include length (metre), mass (kilogram), time (second).
<b>Subtract</b>	to find the difference between two numbers. For example: $6 - 4 = 2$ (in other words, to “take away”.)
<b>Volume</b>	the space contained within a solid, measured in cubic units.

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