

# Mental Subtraction, Part 1

**Method 1: Subtract in two parts**

$53 - \underline{8}$ $= 53 - \underline{3} - \underline{5}$ $= 50 - 5 = 45$	$72 - \underline{6}$ $= 72 - \underline{2} - \underline{4}$ $= 70 - 4 = 66$
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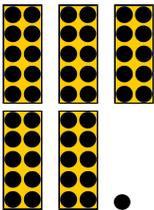
Subtract 8 in two parts: first 3, then 5.    Subtract 6 in two parts: first 2, then 4.  
(In other words, first subtract to the *previous whole ten*, then the rest.)

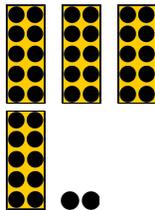
1. Subtract the elevated number in parts (first subtract to the previous whole ten; then the rest).

<p>a. <math>(51 - \underline{1}) - \underline{4} = \underline{\quad}</math></p> <div style="text-align: center; margin-left: 40px;"> <math display="block">\begin{array}{c} -5 \\ / \quad \backslash \\ \underline{1} \quad \underline{4} \end{array}</math> </div>	<p>b. <math>(62 - \underline{\quad}) - \underline{\quad} = \underline{\quad}</math></p> <div style="text-align: center; margin-left: 40px;"> <math display="block">\begin{array}{c} -7 \\ / \quad \backslash \\ \underline{\quad} \quad \underline{\quad} \end{array}</math> </div>
<p>c. <math>(33 - \underline{\quad}) - \underline{\quad} = \underline{\quad}</math></p> <div style="text-align: center; margin-left: 40px;"> <math display="block">\begin{array}{c} -4 \\ / \quad \backslash \\ \underline{\quad} \quad \underline{\quad} \end{array}</math> </div>	<p>d. <math>(92 - \underline{\quad}) - \underline{\quad} = \underline{\quad}</math></p> <div style="text-align: center; margin-left: 40px;"> <math display="block">\begin{array}{c} -5 \\ / \quad \backslash \\ \underline{\quad} \quad \underline{\quad} \end{array}</math> </div>
<p>e. <math>(75 - \underline{\quad}) - \underline{\quad} = \underline{\quad}</math></p> <div style="text-align: center; margin-left: 40px;"> <math display="block">\begin{array}{c} -6 \\ / \quad \backslash \\ \underline{\quad} \quad \underline{\quad} \end{array}</math> </div>	<p>f. <math>(63 - \underline{\quad}) - \underline{\quad} = \underline{\quad}</math></p> <div style="text-align: center; margin-left: 40px;"> <math display="block">\begin{array}{c} -7 \\ / \quad \backslash \\ \underline{\quad} \quad \underline{\quad} \end{array}</math> </div>
<p>g. <math>(35 - \underline{\quad}) - \underline{\quad} = \underline{\quad}</math></p> <div style="text-align: center; margin-left: 40px;"> <math display="block">\begin{array}{c} -7 \\ / \quad \backslash \\ \underline{\quad} \quad \underline{\quad} \end{array}</math> </div>	<p>h. <math>(74 - \underline{\quad}) - \underline{\quad} = \underline{\quad}</math></p> <div style="text-align: center; margin-left: 40px;"> <math display="block">\begin{array}{c} -5 \\ / \quad \backslash \\ \underline{\quad} \quad \underline{\quad} \end{array}</math> </div>

2. First subtract the balls that are not in the ten-groups.

<p>a. <math>51 - 7 = \underline{\quad}</math></p> <p><math>51 - 5 = \underline{\quad}</math></p> <p><math>51 - 3 = \underline{\quad}</math></p> <p><math>51 - 6 = \underline{\quad}</math></p>	<p>b. <math>42 - 4 = \underline{\quad}</math></p> <p><math>42 - 5 = \underline{\quad}</math></p> <p><math>42 - 3 = \underline{\quad}</math></p> <p><math>42 - 6 = \underline{\quad}</math></p>
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**Method 2: Use known subtraction facts**

Since  $14 - 6 = 8$ , we know that the answer to  $74 - 6$  will end in 8, but it will be in the sixties (sixty-something). So it is 68.

Since  $15 - 8 = 7$ , we know that the answer to  $55 - 8$  will end in 7, but it will be in the forties (forty-something). So it is 47.

3. Subtract. The first problem in each box is a “helping problem” for the others.

a. $14 - 9 =$ _____ $24 - 9 =$ _____ $44 - 9 =$ _____	b. $17 - 8 =$ _____ $27 - 8 =$ _____ $37 - 8 =$ _____	c. $12 - 9 =$ _____ $52 - 9 =$ _____ $32 - 9 =$ _____
d. $15 - 9 =$ _____ $65 - 9 =$ _____ $45 - 9 =$ _____	e. $13 - 8 =$ _____ $33 - 8 =$ _____ $93 - 8 =$ _____	f. $16 - 8 =$ _____ $86 - 8 =$ _____ $36 - 8 =$ _____

4. a. Amy has \$32. She bought a comic book for \$7.  
How much does she have now?

b. Peter had \$29. A toy train he wants costs \$39.  
Mom paid him \$5 for working. How much more  
does Peter now need to buy the train?

c. A flower shop has 55 roses. Eight of them are white,  
and the rest are red. How many are red?

5. Use either method from this lesson to subtract.

a. $34 - 5 =$ _____ $73 - 7 =$ _____	b. $65 - 9 =$ _____ $36 - 8 =$ _____	c. $51 - 8 =$ _____ $93 - 6 =$ _____	d. $62 - 7 =$ _____ $83 - 8 =$ _____
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