

Adding decimal numbers - tenths

To learn how to add and subtract decimal numbers, try it yourself and *compare to fraction addition!* Add the decimals. Then write each decimal as a fraction, and add the two fractions. Compare the answers.

$0.5 + 0.2 =$ $\frac{5}{10} + \frac{2}{10} =$	$0.3 + 0.4 =$ $\frac{3}{10} + \frac{4}{10} =$	$0.4 + 0.4 =$ $=$
$0.5 + 0.6 =$ $\frac{5}{10} + \frac{6}{10} =$	$0.8 + 0.4 =$ $\frac{8}{10} + \frac{4}{10} =$	$0.4 + 0.4 + 0.4 =$ $=$
$0.9 - 0.2 =$ $\frac{9}{10} - \frac{2}{10} =$	$1.8 - 0.4 =$ $1\frac{8}{10} - \frac{4}{10} =$	$3.9 - 0.4 - 0.4 =$ $=$
$1.5 + 0.4 =$ $1\frac{5}{10} + \frac{4}{10} =$	$1.8 + 1.1 =$ $1\frac{8}{10} + 1\frac{1}{10} =$	$1.7 + 0.4 =$
$5.7 - 1.4 =$ $5\frac{7}{10} - \frac{14}{10} =$	$1.1 - 0.7 =$ $1\frac{1}{10} - \frac{7}{10} =$	$3.5 - 1.5 =$
$2.6 + 0.4 =$	$2.7 + 0.7 =$	$2.7 + 1.4 =$
$4.5 + 4.5 =$	$1.3 + 5.5 =$	$3.6 + 2.6 =$

$0.8 + 0.4 = ??$

You add 8 tenths and 4 tenths, so the result is 12 tenths
 = one whole and two tenths = 1.2

$2.7 + 0.7 = ??$

2 wholes 7 tenths *and* 7 tenths makes 2 wholes and 14 tenths. But 14 tenths is
 1 whole 4 tenths, so the sum is 3 wholes and 4 tenths = 3.4

Remember that you are adding *tenths*, not just 'numbers' 8 and 4 (or whatever). If you have difficulty thinking that $0.8 + 0.4$ would be 0.12, say the word "*tenths*" aloud with each addend.