

Percent of a Number (Mental Math)

100% of something means all of it. 1% of something means 1/100 of it.

To calculate a percentage of some quantity is calculating a fractional part of that quantity because *percent* simply means a hundredth part. Therefore, percentages *are* simply fractions!

How much is 1% of 200 kg? This means how much is 1/100 of 200 kg? It is simply 2 kg.

To find 1% of something (1/100 of something), divide by 100.

Do you remember how to divide by 100 mentally? Just move the decimal point two places to the left. For example, 1% of 540 is 5.4, or 1% of 8.30 is 0.083.

To find 2% of some quantity, first find 1% of it, and double that.

For example, let's find 2% of \$6. Since 1% of 6 is \$0.06, then 2% of 6 is \$0.12.

To find 10% of some quantity, divide by 10.

Why does that work? It is because 10% is 10/100, which equals 1/10. So, 10% is 1/10 of the quantity!

For example, 10% of \$780 is \$78. Or, 10% of \$6.50 is \$0.65.

(To divide by 10 mentally, just move the decimal point one place to the left.)

Can you think of a way to find 20% of a number? (Hint: Start with finding 10% of the number.)

1. Find 10% of these numbers.

a. 700 _____ b. 321 _____ c. 60 _____ d. 7 _____

2. Find 1% of these numbers.

a. 700 _____ b. 321 _____ c. 60 _____ d. 7 _____

3. One percent of Mom's paycheck is \$22. How much is her total paycheck?

4. Fill in the table. Use mental math.

| percentage / number | 1,200 | 80 | 29 | 9 | 5.7 |
|---------------------|-------|----|----|---|-----|
| 1% of the number | | | | | |
| 2% of the number | | | | | |
| 10% of the number | | | | | |
| 20% of the number | | | | | |