

Method 2

- Method #1 involves several steps that can be prone to error for many of us.
- Alternatively, the following rule may be applied to find the signed complement of an original 2's complement number without doing the arithmetic involved in the conversion technique above.

Short-Cut Rule for 2's Complement Number Conversion:

Copy the digit(s) of the original number from right to left (from the least significant digit) up-to-and-including the first instance of a "1", then complement (flip) the rest of the number.

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 - **Original 2's Complement number.**
- 1001
- 1**
- **Copy the digit(s) from right to left up-to-and-including the first occurrence of a "1"** - In this case the right-most bit happens to be the first instance of 1; so we copy (*up-to-and-including*) it; then stop copying.
- 011**1**
- **Now, complement (flip) the rest of the number, i.e., 0 becomes 1 and 1 becomes 0.**
 - The resulting number has a sign bit of 0 so simply sum up the rest of the digits and express it as +7.

As if by magic, all that is left for us to do is to evaluate the result; express value's decimal equivalent and remember the sign."

0111 = +7 . . .

so we can deduce that the original number represented -7 . . . It's that simple!

[Link1](#) | [Link2](#) | [Link3](#)