

Problem Long Division

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Input: 2 n-digit nonnegative integers x & y

Output: floored quotient from $\frac{x}{y}$ + remainder of rational number $\frac{x}{y}$

Let x be our dividend
Let y be our divisor
Let R be our remainder

Let $x = 12345$

Let $y = 2$

Understand we are working in columns, so there will be a current or working column

Set up long division table

n columns == to n digits of $y + R$

$$y \overline{)x} = 2 \overline{)12345}$$

our working column will start in our leftmost column

our example starts as follows:

$$y \rightarrow 2 \overline{)1} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{not part of working column} \\ \hline \end{array} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \dots \text{stuff} \\ \hline \end{array}$$

x

evaluate how many times our divisor divides the dividend contained in the working column

$$2 \div 1 = 0 \text{ times}$$

Place integer on top in left most column

$$0 \overline{)1} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{ignore for now} \\ \hline \end{array} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \dots \text{stuff} \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$2 \cdot 0 = 0$$

multiply the quotient by the divisor and place the product 1 row down
take difference of the current dividend

$$\begin{array}{r} 0 \overline{)1} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{ignore for now} \\ \hline \end{array} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \dots \text{stuff} \\ \hline \end{array} \\ - 0 \\ \hline 1 \end{array}$$

Shift working column to the right one place value
Bring new value down to complete new dividend

$$\begin{array}{r} 2 \overline{) 12} \\ -0 \\ \hline 12 \end{array}$$

divided contained in working column

Check how many times our divisor divides our dividend and repeat previous steps n times

← working column

$$2 \div 12 = 6$$

$$\begin{array}{r} \overleftarrow{06} \\ 2 \overline{) 12} \\ -0 \\ \hline 12 \\ -12 \\ \hline 0 \end{array}$$

$$6 \times 2 = 12$$

$$2 \div 3 = 1$$

$$\begin{array}{r} \overleftarrow{061} \\ 2 \overline{) 123} \\ -0 \\ \hline 12 \\ -12 \\ \hline 03 \\ -2 \\ \hline 1 \end{array}$$

$$2 \cdot 1 = 2$$

...

$$\begin{array}{r} \overleftarrow{06172} \\ 2 \overline{) 12345} \\ -0 \\ \hline 12 \\ -12 \\ \hline 03 \\ -2 \\ \hline 14 \\ -14 \\ \hline 05 \\ -4 \\ \hline 1 \end{array}$$

This leaves us with our (Remainder = **R**)
Place R as a fraction over X (divisor) $\frac{R}{X}$... in our case $\frac{1}{2}$

$$X/y = 2 \div 12345 = 06172 \frac{1}{2}$$

Algorithm Summary:

$x \overline{)y}$ ^{working column}
y has n digits
n+1 columns

final column is remainder fraction

divide dividend in working column by divisor
keep track of remainders and shift working column to the right after each iteration.

leave remainders in 1 place value higher than current working column