Mental calculation

Mental calculation or **mental maths** is doing <u>arithmetic</u> without using any tools such as a <u>computer</u> or a <u>calculator</u>, and without writing anything down. Mental calculation uses only the <u>human brain</u>. People who use mental arithmetic use shortcuts to make the calculation easier.

Mental calculation often involves the use of specific techniques devised for specific types of problems. There are specific methods for adding, subtracting, multiplying or dividing and more calculations such as squaring numbers or its opposite [square] "root finding". And even specific methods depending on the numbers used, such as "multiply by 10" or "multiply any 2-digit numbers", or "square numbers near 50".

Calculation methods

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There are many <u>methods</u> to do mental operations such as multiplying.

To multiply an integer by 10, simply add an extra 0 to the end of the number. To multiply a non-integer by 10, move the decimal point to the right one digit. In general for 100, 1000, 10000 and so on, multiply by ten for repeatedly for each zero in that number.

Another way to do multiplications with two <u>numbers</u> is to use <u>binomial</u> <u>formulas</u>.

$$(x+y)\cdot(x-y)=x^2-y^2$$

Other websites

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