

# Commutative Property – Summary

The commutative property describes how the order of numbers does not affect the result of an operation.

## 1. Addition

For any two numbers  $a$  and  $b$ :

$$a + b = b + a$$

Example:  $3 + 5 = 5 + 3 = 8$

The sum remains the same when the order of the addends is reversed.

## 2. Multiplication

For any two numbers  $a$  and  $b$ :

$$a \times b = b \times a$$

Example:  $4 \times 6 = 6 \times 4 = 24$

The product remains the same when the order of the factors is reversed.

## 3. Not valid for subtraction or division

$$a - b \neq b - a$$

$$a \div b \neq b \div a$$

Subtraction and division are not commutative.

**In short:** Changing the order of addition or multiplication does not change the result.