

# Java Math Operators

## What are Math Operators?

**Math operators** are special symbols that tell Java to perform mathematical calculations. They work just like the math symbols you use in regular math class, but with a few differences to work with computer keyboards and programming rules.

### Simple Analogy: Math Operators are Like Calculator Buttons

Think of Java math operators like buttons on a calculator:

- **Addition (+)** = The "+" button - adds numbers together
- **Subtraction (-)** = The "-" button - takes one number away from another
- **✖ Multiplication (\*)** = The "×" button - but we use \* on keyboards
- **Division (/)** = The "÷" button - but we use / on keyboards
- **Remainder (%)** = Special button that gives you what's left over after division

**Just like a calculator, Java follows the order of operations (PEMDAS) and gives you exact results!**

**Example:**  $5 + 3 \times 2 = 11$  (not 16!)  
*Multiplication happens first, then addition*

## The Five Basic Math Operators

Operator	Name	What It Does	Example	Result
+	Addition	Adds two numbers	10 + 3	13
-	Subtraction	Subtracts second number from first	10 - 3	7
*	Multiplication	Multiplies two numbers	10 * 3	30
/	Division	Divides first number by second	10 / 3	3.333... or 3 (depends on data type)
%	Modulus (Remainder)	Gives remainder after division	10 % 3	1 (because $10 \div 3 = 3$ remainder 1)

### Example 1: Basic Arithmetic

```
int a = 15;
int b = 4;

int sum = a + b; // Addition
int difference = a - b; // Subtraction
int product = a * b; // Multiplication
int quotient = a / b; // Division
int remainder = a % b; // Modulus

System.out.println("15 + 4 = " + sum); // 19
System.out.println("15 - 4 = " + difference); // 11
```

```
System.out.println("15 * 4 = " + product); // 60
System.out.println("15 / 4 = " + quotient); // 3 (integer division!)
System.out.println("15 % 4 = " + remainder); // 3
```

**Output:**

```
15 + 4 = 19
15 - 4 = 11
15 * 4 = 60
15 / 4 = 3
15 % 4 = 3
```

## ⚠ Important: Integer vs Decimal Division

### Integer Division (int / int)

```
int a = 10;
int b = 3;
int result = a / b;

System.out.println(result); // 3 (not 3.33!)
```

**Result:** Java throws away the decimal part!

### Decimal Division (double / double)

```
double a = 10.0;
double b = 3.0;
double result = a / b;

System.out.println(result); // 3.33333333...
```

**Result:** Java keeps the decimal part!

**Rule:** If you want decimal results, make sure at least one number is a double or float!

## Example 2: Understanding Modulus (%) Operator

```
// Modulus gives you the "leftover" after division
System.out.println(17 % 5); // 2 (because 17 ÷ 5 = 3 remainder 2)
System.out.println(20 % 4); // 0 (because 20 ÷ 4 = 5 remainder 0)
System.out.println(7 % 3); // 1 (because 7 ÷ 3 = 2 remainder 1)

// Common uses of modulus:
int number = 23;
if (number % 2 == 0) {
    System.out.println("Even number");
} else {
```

```
System.out.println("Odd number"); // This will print
}
```

**Modulus is useful for:**

- Checking if a number is even or odd
- Making numbers "wrap around" (like clock arithmetic)
- Finding patterns that repeat

## Order of Operations (PEMDAS)

Java follows the same order of operations as math class:

**Parentheses → Exponents → Multiplication/Division → Addition/Subtraction**  
*(Left to right for operations of equal priority)*

**Example 3: Order of Operations in Action**

```
int result1 = 2 + 3 * 4; // 14 (not 20!)
int result2 = (2 + 3) * 4; // 20
int result3 = 10 - 6 / 2 + 1; // 8
int result4 = 10 - (6 / 2 + 1); // 6

System.out.println("2 + 3 * 4 = " + result1);
System.out.println("(2 + 3) * 4 = " + result2);
System.out.println("10 - 6 / 2 + 1 = " + result3);
System.out.println("10 - (6 / 2 + 1) = " + result4);
```

**Step-by-step for result3:**

1. 10 - 6 / 2 + 1
2. 10 - 3 + 1 (division first)
3. 7 + 1 (left to right for same priority)
4. 8

## Shorthand Assignment Operators

Java provides shortcuts for common operations where you modify a variable:

Shorthand	Long Form	What It Does	Example
<code>+=</code>	<code>x = x + value</code>	Add to variable	<code>score += 10</code>
<code>-=</code>	<code>x = x - value</code>	Subtract from variable	<code>lives -= 1</code>
<code>*=</code>	<code>x = x * value</code>	Multiply variable	<code>price *= 1.1</code>
<code>/=</code>	<code>x = x / value</code>	Divide variable	<code>total /= 2</code>
<code>%=</code>	<code>x = x % value</code>	Modulus on variable	<code>index %= 10</code>

**Example 4: Using Shorthand Operators**

```
int score = 100;
```

```
double price = 50.0;
int level = 1;
System.out.println("Initial score: " + score); // 100

score += 25; // Same as: score = score + 25
System.out.println("After bonus: " + score); // 125

score -= 10; // Same as: score = score - 10
System.out.println("After penalty: " + score); // 115

price *= 1.08; // Add 8% tax
System.out.println("Price with tax: $" + price); // $54.0
level *= 2; // Double the level
System.out.println("New level: " + level); // 2
```

## Increment and Decrement Operators

Special shortcuts for adding or subtracting 1:

Operator	Name	What It Does	Same As
++	Increment	Add 1 to variable	x = x + 1 or x += 1
--	Decrement	Subtract 1 from variable	x = x - 1 or x -= 1

### Example 5: Increment and Decrement

```
int counter = 5;
int lives = 3;
System.out.println("Counter: " + counter); // 5
counter++; // Add 1
System.out.println("Counter: " + counter); // 6

System.out.println("Lives: " + lives); // 3
lives--; // Subtract 1
System.out.println("Lives: " + lives); // 2
// Common in loops:
for (int i = 0; i < 5; i++) { // i++ adds 1 each time
    System.out.println("Loop iteration: " + i);
}
```

### Example 6: Real-World Calculator Program

```
import java.util.Scanner;
public class SimpleCalculator {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        Scanner input = new Scanner(System.in);
        System.out.println("=== Simple Calculator ===");
        System.out.print("Enter first number: ");
        double num1 = input.nextDouble();

        System.out.print("Enter operator (+, -, *, /, %): ");
        String operator = input.next();

        System.out.print("Enter second number: ");
        double num2 = input.nextDouble();
```

```

double result = 0;
boolean validOperation = true;
if (operator.equals("+")) {
    result = num1 + num2;
} else if (operator.equals("-")) {
    result = num1 - num2;
} else if (operator.equals("*")) {
    result = num1 * num2;
} else if (operator.equals("/")) {
    if (num2 != 0) {
        result = num1 / num2;
    } else {
        System.out.println("Error: Cannot divide by zero!");
        validOperation = false;
    }
} else if (operator.equals("%")) {
    result = num1 % num2;
} else {
    System.out.println("Error: Invalid operator!");
    validOperation = false;
}

if (validOperation) {
    System.out.println(num1 + " " + operator + " " + num2 + " = " + result);
}
input.close();
}

```

## Example 7: Practical Math Applications

```

// Calculate compound interest
double principal = 1000.0; // Initial amount
double rate = 0.05; // 5% interest rate
int years = 3; // 3 years

double amount = principal;
for (int year = 1; year <= years; year++) {
    amount *= (1 + rate); // Multiply by 1.05 each year
    System.out.println("Year " + year + ": $" + amount);
}

// Convert temperature
double fahrenheit = 98.6;
double celsius = (fahrenheit - 32) * 5 / 9;
System.out.println(fahrenheit + "°F = " + celsius + "°C");

// Calculate pizza slices per person
int totalSlices = 24;
int people = 7;
int slicesPerPerson = totalSlices / people;
int leftoverSlices = totalSlices % people;

System.out.println("Each person gets " + slicesPerPerson + " slices");
System.out.println("Leftover slices: " + leftoverSlices);

```

## Common Math Operator Mistakes

## Common Mistakes

```
// Integer division loses decimals
int result = 5 / 2; // 2, not 2.5!
// Division by zero crashes program
int x = 10 / 0; // ERROR!
// Wrong operator precedence
int y = 2 + 3 * 4; // 14, not 20!

// Mixing up modulus
if (x % 2 == 1) { // Check for odd
// Should be x % 2 != 0
}
```

## Correct Solutions

```
// Use double for decimal results
double result = 5.0 / 2.0; // 2.5

// Always check before dividing
if (divisor != 0) {
    int x = 10 / divisor;
}
// Use parentheses when in doubt
int y = (2 + 3) * 4; // 20

// Proper even/odd check
if (x % 2 == 0) { // Even
// x % 2 gives 0 or 1
}
```

## Math Operator Best Practices

### Do This:

- **Use parentheses** to make order clear
- **Use doubles** when you need decimal results
- **Check for division by zero** before dividing
- **Use meaningful variable names**
- **Use shorthand operators** (+, -, etc.) for cleaner code
- **Comment complex calculations**

### Don't Do This:

- **Assume integer division** gives decimals
- **Ignore operator precedence**
- **Divide by zero** without checking
- **Use confusing variable names** (a, b, c)
- **Write overly long expressions** without parentheses
- **Mix data types** without understanding results

# Your Turn: Write Your Own Definition

What are math operators in Java? How would you explain them to a friend?

Write your definition in your own words:

Calculate the following expressions by hand, then write what Java would output:

Expression	Your Answer
15 / 4 (with int variables)	_____
15.0 / 4.0	_____
17 % 5	_____
2 + 3 * 4	_____
(2 + 3) * 4	_____

Explain when you would use the modulus (%) operator:

Write a real-world example where you would use each operator:

Addition (+): \_\_\_\_\_

Subtraction (-): \_\_\_\_\_

Multiplication (\*): \_\_\_\_\_

Division (/): \_\_\_\_\_

Modulus (%): \_\_\_\_\_