

1.2 Unsigned binary numbers

Counting in binary

Humans have ten fingers so humans use a base ten number system. Ex: 452 means $4 \times 10^2 + 5 \times 10^1 + 2 \times 10^0$. Digital systems use binary valued signals (high, low) so digital systems use a base two number system. Ex: 1101 means $1 \times 2^3 + 1 \times 2^2 + 0 \times 2^1 + 1 \times 2^0$. A number in base ten is called a **decimal** number (from Latin "decem" meaning ten), while a number in base two is called a **binary** number (from meaning two together).

Base ten has ten symbols for a digit: 0, 1, ..., 9. When counting up and reaching 9, the digit resets to 0 and a 1 carries to the next digit. Base two has only two symbols for a digit: 0 and 1. So counting up results in frequent resets. Each digit in a binary number is called a **bit**, short for "binary digit".

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ACTIVITY

1.2.1: Counting up in decimal and in binary.

Start ☐ 2x speed

-	0	0	
*	1	1	
**	2	10	Reset, carry
***	3	11	
****	4	100	Reset, carry and reset, carry
*****	5	101	
*****	6	110	Reset, carry
*****	7	111	
*****	8	1000	Reset, carry and reset, carry and reset, carry
*****	9	1001	

*****	10	Reset digit to 0, carry 1	1010	Reset, carry
*****	11		1011	
	...			
	98			
	99			
	100	Reset digit to 0, carry 1 to next digit which is 9 so reset to 0, carry 1 to next digit		

Note: This section only covers unsigned binary numbers. An **unsigned binary** number can only represent non-negative values. A 4-bit binary number being 0000 (0), 0001 (1), 0010 (2), ..., 1111 (15). In contrast, a signed binary number uses the leftmost bit to indicate whether a number is positive or negative.

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1.2.2: Counting up in binary.

Type the next higher 3-digit binary number.

1) 000

Check

Show answer

2) 001

Check

Show answer

3) 010

Check

[Show answer](#)

4) 011

Check

[Show answer](#)

5) 111 (type a 4-bit answer)

Check

[Show answer](#)**CHALLENGE
ACTIVITY**

1.2.1: Counting up with 3 bits.

Can you count from 000 to 111 in binary in 20 seconds?

Start

Decimal	Binary (3 bits)
0	000
1	001
2	010
3	011

4 100

6

5 101

7

6 110

8

7 111

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Check

Next

Converting from binary to decimal

Software and hardware developers benefit from being able to quickly convert between binary and decimal numbers.

Given a binary number, each digit's weight is summed to form a decimal number. Ex: $1101 = 1 \times 2^3 + 1 \times 2^2 + 0 \times 2^1 + 1 \times 2^0 = 8$

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1.2.3: Binary to decimal tool.

Reset

0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

2^7	2^6	2^5	2^4	2^3	2^2	2^1	2^0
128	64	32	16	8	4	2	1

 $0 \cdot 128 + 0 \cdot 64 + 0 \cdot 32 + 0 \cdot 16 + 0 \cdot 8 + 0 \cdot 4 + 0 \cdot 2 + 0 \cdot 1 = 0$

(decimal \

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1.2.4: Converting from binary to decimal.

Convert from binary to decimal. Use the fewest decimal digits possible. Recall that four-bit binary digit weights are 8, 4, 2, and 1.

1) 0001

Check[Show answer](#)

2) 0010

Check[Show answer](#)

3) 0111

Check[Show answer](#)

4) 1001

Check[Show answer](#)

5) 1111

Check[Show answer](#)

Converting from decimal to binary

Given a decimal number, starting from the leftmost binary digit (greater than the decimal number), a 1 is placed in each digit resulting binary number doesn't exceed the decimal number.

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1.2.5: Converting from decimal to four-bit binary.

Type a four-bit answer: 0101, not 101. Four-bit binary digit weights: 8, 4, 2, 1.

1) 3

Check

Show answer

2) 4

Check

Show answer

3) 5

Check

Show answer

4) 13

Check

Show answer

1.2.6: Binary-to-decimal converter.

ACTIVITY

Edit either box

Binary

Decimal

↔

Adding binary numbers

For decimal numbers, adding by hand starts at the right and adds each digit, possibly carrying a 1 to the digit on the left. Adding binary numbers is identical.

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1.2.7: Adding in binary.

Start ☐ 2x speed

```

      1 1
    0 1 1 1
+   0 1 1 0
    1 1 0 1
(So 7 + 6 = 13)

```

CHALLENGE
ACTIVITY

1.2.2: Binary addition.

Start

Add 12 and 1

	0	0	0	0	Carry bits
	1	1	0	0	4-bit number
+	0	0	0	1	4-bit number
	0	0	0	0	Result number

1

2

3

4

5

6

Check Next

**PARTICIPATION
ACTIVITY**

1.2.8: Adding binary numbers.

1) 0010
+ 0010

Check

Show answer

2) 0110
+ 0010

Check

Show answer

3) 0101
+ 0111

Check

Show answer

4) 1111
+ 0001

Check

Show answer

Overflow

Overflow occurs when the result of a binary operation is too large to fit in allowed number of bits. Ex: For four-bit numbers, 10000, which is too large for four bits. When adding two unsigned numbers, if the leftmost bit generates a carry bit, overflow

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1.2.9: Overflow for unsigned numbers.

Indicate which operations yield overflow for four-bit binary numbers.

1) 0001 + 0010

☐ Overflow

☐ No overflow

2) $0111 + 0111$

☐ Overflow

☐ No overflow

3) $1000 + 0111$

☐ Overflow

☐ No overflow

4) $1000 + 1000$

☐ Overflow

☐ No overflow

5) $1100 + 0111$

☐ Overflow

☐ No overflow

6) $1111 + 1111$

☐ Overflow

☐ No overflow

7) In base 10, for 2 digit numbers:

$50 + 70$

☐ Overflow

☐ No overflow

 **Provide feedback on this section**