al·go·rithm |ˈalɡəˌriðəm|

noun

a process or set of rules to be followed in calculations or other problem-solving operations, esp. by a computer : *a basic **algorithm for** division*.

DERIVATIVES

al·go·rith·mic |ˌalɡəˈriðmik| adjective

al·go·rith·mi·cal·ly |ˌalɡəˈriðmik(ə)lē| adverb

ORIGIN late 17th cent.: variant (influenced by Greek ***arithmos 'number'***) of Middle English *algorism*, via Old French from medieval Latin ***algorismus***. The Arabic source, ***al-<u>K</u>wārizmī 'the man of <u>K</u>wārizm'*** (now Khiva), was the cognomen of the 9th-cent. mathematician Abū Jaʿfar Muhammad ibn Mūsa.