

ASSOCIATIVE PROPERTY

What Is the Associative Property?

Associative Property of Addition explains that when three or more numbers are added, the sum is the same regardless of the order in which the numbers are grouped and/or added.

For example: $(1 + 2) + 3 = 1 + (2 + 3)$

How to use the associative property of addition:

The Associative Property of Addition allows addends to be grouped in different ways without changing the sum.

$$8 + (1 + 3) = 8 + 4 = 12$$

and $(8 + 1) + 3 = 9 + 3 = 12$

The sum is the same in both ways.

The Associative Property of Addition allows addends to be grouped in different ways without changing the sum.

$$6 + 5 + 7$$

$$(6 + 5) + 7 = 11 + 7 = 18$$

or

$$6 + (5 + 7) = 6 + 12 = 18$$

which shows that both groupings leads to the same sum.

The **Associative Property** is helpful when adding several numbers. It also makes mental math easier.



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