

ADD, SUBTRACT, MULTIPLY, AND DIVIDE DECIMALS

Adding Decimals:

You add decimals the same way you add whole numbers BUT you also need to place the decimal in the correct spot.

$$\begin{array}{r} \text{1} \\ 12.432 \\ + 10.281 \\ \hline 22.713 \end{array}$$

Subtracting Decimals:

You subtract decimals the same way as you subtract whole numbers BUT you a



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Multiplying Decimals:

You also multiply decimals the same way as you multiply whole numbers BUT you also need to place the decimal in the correct spot. When multiplying decimals, the decimals may or may NOT be lined up in the multiplication problem.

$$\begin{array}{r} 4.23 \text{ (2 decimal places)} \\ \times 1.2 \text{ (1 decimal place)} \\ \hline 846 \\ \underline{423} \\ 5.076 \text{ (}\leftarrow \text{ move decimal 3 decimal places)} \end{array}$$

Dividing Decimals:

You also divide decimals the same way you divide whole numbers BUT you also need to place the decimal in the correct spot.

$$50.4 \div 2.4 = ?$$

(dividend) \div (divisor)

Before dividing, we need to make the divisor (2.4) into a whole number.

To do this we must: Make the divisor (2.4) into a whole number by multiplying the divisor (2.4) and the dividend (50.4) by the same number (10, 100, or 1000 for example)...but there is an easier way to do this...

Easy Trick: Move the decimal point all the way to the right of the divisor (2.4) and also move the decimal point of the dividend (50.4) the SAME number of places.

SO FIRST



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NEXT:

50.4 becomes 504. (504. happens to be a whole number too)

$$\begin{array}{r} 2 \\ \hline 24 \overline{) 504} \\ \underline{- 48} \\ 24 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 21. \\ \hline 24 \overline{) 504.} \\ \underline{- 48} \\ 24 \\ \underline{- 24} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

$$50.4 \div 2.4 = \mathbf{21.0}$$