

SOLVING PERCENT PROBLEMS

What Is Solving Percent Problems?

- A percent is a way of comparing a number with 100.
- Percents are usually written with a percent sign: 60% or 32%
- There are **3 ways to represent a percent**: as a percent 55%, as a decimal .55 or as a fraction 50/100.
- Any of the representations can be used to solve a percent problem.
- To solve a percent problem, multiply the value by the percent using one of the representations for the percent.

For example, 65% of 94 could be solved by multiplying $.65 \times 94$ which is 61.6. Which representation is easier to use? $65\% \times 94 = n/100 = n/94$.



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How to solve

- Change percent to decimal:
 - $88\% = .88$
 - $17\% = .17$
- Multiply the value by the decimal:
 - 45% of 80 → $.45 \times 80 = 36$
 - 88% of 124 → $.88 \times 124 = 109.12$
 - 17% of 45 → $.17 \times 45 = 7.65$
- When solving a word problem with a percent in it:
 - Read carefully to decide what value is to be broken into a part.
 - The percent will usually have the % mark next to the number.
 - The other value will be connected to an item which CAN be broken into its parts.

- **Example:** A bakery makes 900 cookies each day and 70% of those cookies are chocolate chip. If a customer wants 500 chocolate chip cookies, will the bakery have enough to sell?
 - The 900 cookies can be divided into parts.
 - 70% of the cookies are chocolate chip
 - To solve: 70% of 900 $\rightarrow .75 \times 900 = 675$
 - **Yes**, the bakery has 675 chocolate chip cookies, enough chocolate chip cookies to sell to the customer who wants 500.

Try This!

50% of 60 _____

13% of 37 _____

25% of 80 _____



PREVIEW

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A woodworker made 60 decorative shelves to sell at a fair. 30% of the shelves were made out of maple wood. How many maple shelves does he have to sell?
