

Rounding and Estimating

Rounding is a useful way to estimate answers to decimal problems.

EXAMPLE For the problem $0.625 - 0.18$, round each number to the nearest *tenth*. Then subtract the rounded numbers.


STEP 1 Round each number to the nearest tenth. $0.625 - 0.18 \approx 0.6 - 0.2$
 The symbol \approx means "is approximately equal to."

STEP 2 Subtract the rounded numbers. $0.6 - 0.2 = 0.4$

A calculator is a good tool for checking decimal answers. To get the exact answer for the last example, do the following:

Press the following keys on a calculator: · 6 2 5 - · 1 8 =

The calculator display should read 0.445

 **Round each number to the indicated place. Then add or subtract the rounded numbers. Use a calculator to find the exact answer to each problem.**



For problems 1 through 3, first round each number to the nearest *tenth*.

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| 1. $1.41 + 0.865 + 2.74 =$ | $26.23 - 8.593 =$ |
| 2. $0.59 + 0.127 + 0.08 =$ | $0.738 - 0.49 =$ |
| 3. $2.88 + 10.319 + 6.0895 =$ | $7.286 - 0.51 =$ |

For problems 4 and 5, first round each number to the nearest *unit* or *whole number*.

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| 4. $16.3 + 2.908 + 136.1 =$ | $42.71 - 11.085 =$ |
| 5. $11.28 + 4.91 + 3.047 =$ | $5.283 - 1.679 =$ |

For problem 6, first round each number to the nearest *hundredth*.

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| 6. $0.253 + 1.087 + 0.562 =$ | $0.928 - 0.3746 =$ |
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