



What Must Be in the Ones Place?

This is a really simple trick that lets you quickly eliminate wrong answers!

Check just the ones digits in the problem. Multiply quickly in your head, and you will know what the ones digit must be in the correct answer. For example:

$$\begin{array}{r} 56 \\ \times 4 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$4 \times 6 = 24$
The correct answer ends with 4

Check: $\begin{array}{r} 2 \\ 56 \\ \times 4 \\ \hline \end{array}$

It worked! 224

This trick works when you multiply by 2 and 3 digit numbers (and even bigger numbers!) because when you do your hugs and kisses, you never put any new numbers in the ones place.

$$\begin{array}{r} 56 \\ \times 48 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$8 \times 6 = 48$
The correct answer ends with 8

Check: $\begin{array}{r} 2 \\ 4 \\ 56 \\ \times 48 \\ \hline 448 \\ 2240 \\ \hline 2688 \end{array}$

It worked! 2688

$$\begin{array}{r} 637 \\ \times 123 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$3 \times 7 = 21$
The correct answer ends with 1

Check: $\begin{array}{r} 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ 637 \\ \times 123 \\ \hline 1911 \\ 12740 \\ 63700 \\ \hline 78351 \end{array}$

It worked! 78351

This trick works wonders because you can cross off answers that don't have the correct ones digit.

Try your new skill *before* you solve multiplication problems!



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$\begin{array}{r} 16 \\ \times 5 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$5 \times 6 = \underline{\quad}$ The correct answer ends with: $\underline{\quad}$	$\begin{array}{r} 247 \\ \times 4 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$4 \times 7 = \underline{\quad}$ The correct answer ends with: $\underline{\quad}$
$\begin{array}{r} 78 \\ \times 14 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\underline{\quad} \times \underline{\quad} = \underline{\quad}$ The correct answer ends with: $\underline{\quad}$	$\begin{array}{r} 954 \\ \times 28 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\underline{\quad} \times \underline{\quad} = \underline{\quad}$ The correct answer ends with: $\underline{\quad}$
$\begin{array}{r} 57 \\ \times 86 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\underline{\quad} \times \underline{\quad} = \underline{\quad}$ The correct answer ends with: $\underline{\quad}$	$\begin{array}{r} 593 \\ \times 187 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\underline{\quad} \times \underline{\quad} = \underline{\quad}$ The correct answer ends with: $\underline{\quad}$

Practice test problems: cross off the incorrect choices. Solve the problem by multiplying, if necessary.

1) $49 \times 3 =$

- a. 158
- b. 147
- c. 142
- d. 153

2) $643 \times 2 =$

- a. 1,384
- b. 1,572
- c. 1,286
- d. 1,693

3) $865 \times 177 =$

- a. 153,105
- b. 153,108
- c. 153,207
- d. 154,182

4) $57 \times 8 =$

- a. 495
- b. 464
- c. 456
- d. 428

5) $93 \times 26 =$

- a. 2,516
- b. 2,418
- c. 2,324
- d. 2,466

6) $654 \times 331 =$

- a. 265,178
- b. 218,379
- c. 26,476
- d. 216,474

How about that!

Big numbers aren't so scary after all!



d. 4) c. 5) b. 6) a.

Answers: 1) b; 2) c; 3) a;