

Times Tables

Why help children to learn times tables?

When children first start to multiply, they use their fingers, counters and paper to help them add on the right number again and again. This takes a lot of time and it's easy to make mistakes. Yet the need to multiply is everywhere – in almost all areas of maths and throughout our normal lives. Budgeting, shopping, craft, DIY and cookery are just a few examples of everyday activities in which we use multiplication tables.

If children learn their times tables, all of these calculations become much easier. But for many children, remembering strings of numbers is hard. So, the more they practise at home the better.

Year 1	Count in multiples of 2, 5 and 10. Recall and use doubles of all numbers to 10 and corresponding halves.
Year 2	Recall/use multiplication and division facts for the 2, 5 and 10's, including recognising odd and even numbers.
Year 3	Recall and use the multiplication and division facts for the 3, 4 and 8 multiplication tables.
Year 4	Recall and use multiplication and division facts for multiplication tables up to 12×12 .
Year 5	Revision of all multiplication and division facts up to 12×12 .
Year 6	Revision of all multiplication and division facts up to 12×12 .

For more advice and resources to support your child:

https://cdn.oxfordowl.co.uk/2014/05/13/10/30/08/349/PX_MathsContent_BK_TimesTablesInSchool_01_CH.pdf

Times tables underpin many mathematical areas such as fractions, long multiplication, short division, long division, percentages and ratios etc. A good table knowledge makes new concepts far easier to learn.

Reciting tables

With times tables, there's nothing like a couple of minutes practice a day to help them stick in the mind. Many children find that reading and hearing themselves say a table regularly helps them to learn it. Here are some reciting tips:

Find a time and place for reciting that's easy to keep to. A post it note at the bottom of the stairs works well; look, step, recite.

- Start with the first three or four lines of the table for a few days, and then add one or two more lines each time.
- Each time they practise: read the table first and then see how far they can go with their eyes closed. Being able to recall something without looking at it is an important step to getting it lodged in our memory.
- Rhythm, sound, movement, and humour, can all really help us to remember things, use songs to practise. Some children learn a table best by reciting the calculation (e.g. 3×8) and the answer (24). Other children remember the table better if they just recite the answers – 8, 16, 24 and use their fingers to remember which multiple of 8 they have got to.



Useful Websites/ apps

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2mos8O891ghGeQFB0p7GUw/vid eos?app=desktop>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/supermovers/times-table-collection/z4vv6v4>
<https://trockstars.com/>
<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>
<https://www.timestables.co.uk/>