

True or False – 5 ‘Tricks’ to Help with Your Times Tables

Did you see our video of a 9 times table trick a few weeks ago?



Here are some ideas for other times table ‘tricks’ – try them out for yourselves...

Remember: A multiple is the answer reached by multiplying the times table number by another number.

1. True or False?

All multiples of the 5 times table end in 5 or 0

$$5 \times 2 = 10$$

Here, 10 is the multiple. And it ends in 0. It works! But is it the case for 5×6 ? 5×9 ? 5×13 ? Or even 5×78 ?!

2. True or False?

You can add the digits of any multiple of 3 and the answer will always be 3, 6 or 9.

$$3 \times 5 = 15$$

$$1 + 5 = 6$$

It works for this one, but how about others?

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3. True or False?

Doubling can help you know your 4, 8 and 6 x tables

Your 2 times tables are one of the first you learn. So why not use them to help you with your 4s and 8s?

$$2 \times 7 = 14$$

4 is double 2, so the answer to 4×7 must be double $14 = 28$!

8 is double 4, so the answer to 8×7 must be double $28 = 56$!

Note: the 7 stays the same for all of these multiplications as you're using doubling to explore the 7 times tables in this example.

Try it with other times tables. For a challenge, see if you can apply this 'trick' with tripling using your 3 times tables.

4. True or False?

Multiplying 6 by an even number gives you half the answer!

If you multiply 6 by an even number, that even number will be the unit column number in the answer

$$6 \times \underline{4} = \underline{24}$$

$$6 \times \underline{8} = \underline{48}$$

What happens when the even number is two digits, like 12?

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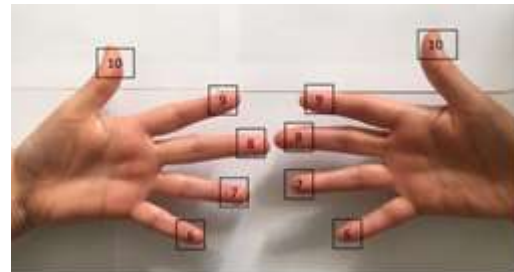


5. You can use your fingers to help with the 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 x tables

It is true that this is a rather complicated trick. Will you take on the challenge?

Use these pictures to help...

Hold your hands horizontally, middle fingers pointing at each other, and number each finger, starting at the bottom with 6, and finishing with your thumb as 10.



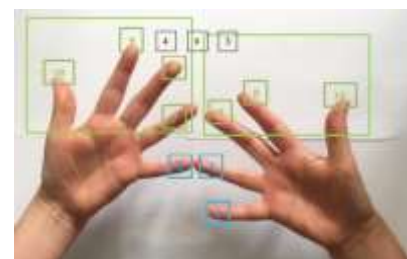
Bring the 2 fingers together that are being multiplied, for example 6 x 7.



Include those two fingers, and the ones below, to get your tens. Here, three fingers, three 10s = 30



Total the fingers on the left (4) and multiply them by the total number of fingers on the right (3). $4 \times 3 = 12$
Add this to your 30, so $30 + 12 = 42$
 $6 \times 7 = 42$.



Did you manage it? Try another one and keep practising!

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