

# Subtracting Multi-Digit Whole Numbers

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Score: \_\_\_\_\_ / 24

## Q Quick Review

To subtract big numbers, line up the **place values** and work from the **ones** on the right. If the top digit is smaller than the bottom digit, you **regroup** (borrow): take 1 from the next place to the left, which is worth 10 in the column you are in. When you must borrow across a 0, keep borrowing one more place to the left. You can always **check** a subtraction by adding your answer to the number you subtracted — it should give the number you started with.

◇ **Example:** Find  $6,020 - 3,478$ .

⇒ Stack the numbers and start in the ones:  $0 - 8$  won't work, so borrow. The tens digit is 2, so we borrow 1 ten: ones become  $10 - 8 = 2$ , tens become 1. Now tens:  $1 - 7$  won't work, and the hundreds digit is 0, so borrow from the thousands. After regrouping carefully we get tens  $11 - 7 = 4$ , hundreds  $9 - 4 = 5$ , thousands  $5 - 3 = 2$ . The answer is 2,542. Check:  $2,542 + 3,478 = 6,020$  — it matches!

**Answer:** 2,542

## PRACTICE

Subtract. Line up the place values and regroup when needed.

- |                     |       |                         |       |
|---------------------|-------|-------------------------|-------|
| 1. $518 - 236$      | _____ | 11. $13,250 - 8,675$    | _____ |
| 2. $740 - 385$      | _____ | 12. $24,018 - 15,749$   | _____ |
| 3. $900 - 247$      | _____ | 13. $35,602 - 18,957$   | _____ |
| 4. $1,325 - 648$    | _____ | 14. $46,031 - 27,894$   | _____ |
| 5. $2,050 - 1,374$  | _____ | 15. $54,200 - 28,736$   | _____ |
| 6. $3,461 - 1,875$  | _____ | 16. $207,135 - 148,978$ | _____ |
| 7. $4,208 - 2,659$  | _____ | 17. $310,024 - 176,859$ | _____ |
| 8. $5,103 - 2,847$  | _____ | 18. $425,016 - 287,948$ | _____ |
| 9. $6,020 - 3,478$  | _____ | 19. $530,072 - 261,395$ | _____ |
| 10. $7,415 - 2,986$ | _____ | 20. $642,010 - 358,947$ | _____ |

## ◆ Word Problems

21. A stadium holds 8,500 people. If 6,275 seats are filled, how many empty seats are there? \_\_\_\_\_
22. A video game has 24,300 points to earn. Maya has earned 15,840 of them. How many points does she still need? \_\_\_\_\_
23. A factory had 128,500 bottles. It shipped out 94,760 bottles. How many bottles are left? \_\_\_\_\_
24. A town's goal is to plant 250,000 trees. So far 173,625 trees have been planted. How many more trees are needed to reach the goal? \_\_\_\_\_



## Answer Keys

- |           |                    |
|-----------|--------------------|
| 1. 282    | 13. 16,645         |
| 2. 355    | 14. 18,137         |
| 3. 653    | 15. 25,464         |
| 4. 677    | 16. 58,157         |
| 5. 676    | 17. 133,165        |
| 6. 1,586  | 18. 137,068        |
| 7. 1,549  | 19. 268,677        |
| 8. 2,256  | 20. 283,063        |
| 9. 2,542  | 21. 2,225 seats    |
| 10. 4,429 | 22. 8,460 points   |
| 11. 4,575 | 23. 33,740 bottles |
| 12. 8,269 | 24. 76,375 trees   |

### Step-by-Step Explanations

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p>1. Ones <math>8 - 6 = 2</math>. Tens: <math>1 - 3</math> needs a borrow, so <math>11 - 3 = 8</math>, hundreds <math>4 - 2 = 2</math>. That gives 282.</p> <p>2. Borrowing through the ones and tens gives <math>740 - 385 = 355</math>.</p> <p>3. Borrow across both zeros: <math>900 - 247 = 653</math>.</p> <p>4. Regroup as you go: <math>1,325 - 648 = 677</math>.</p> <p>5. Borrowing carefully gives <math>2,050 - 1,374 = 676</math>.</p> <p>6. Subtract column by column with borrowing: the answer is 1,586.</p> <p>7. Regroup across the 0 in the tens place: <math>4,208 - 2,659 = 1,549</math>.</p> <p>8. Borrowing through each place gives 2,256.</p> <p>9. Borrow across the zeros carefully: <math>6,020 - 3,478 = 2,542</math>.</p> <p>10. Subtract each column with regrouping: the answer is 4,429.</p> <p>11. Line up the places and borrow: <math>13,250 - 8,675 = 4,575</math>.</p> <p>12. Regrouping through each column gives 8,269.</p> | <p>13. Subtract carefully with borrowing: the answer is 16,645.</p> <p>14. Borrow across the 0 in the hundreds place: <math>46,031 - 27,894 = 18,137</math>.</p> <p>15. Regroup across both zeros: <math>54,200 - 28,736 = 25,464</math>.</p> <p>16. These are six-digit numbers — keep lining up places. The difference is 58,157.</p> <p>17. Borrowing through each column gives 133,165.</p> <p>18. Subtract place by place with regrouping: the answer is 137,068.</p> <p>19. Careful borrowing gives <math>530,072 - 261,395 = 268,677</math>.</p> <p>20. Regroup across the zeros: <math>642,010 - 358,947 = 283,063</math>.</p> <p>21. Subtract the filled seats: <math>8,500 - 6,275 = 2,225</math> empty seats.</p> <p>22. Take away the points earned: <math>24,300 - 15,840 = 8,460</math> points.</p> <p>23. Subtract the shipped bottles: <math>128,500 - 94,760 = 33,740</math> bottles.</p> <p>24. Subtract what is done from the goal: <math>250,000 - 173,625 = 76,375</math> trees.</p> |
|---|---|



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