

# Subtracting Decimals

Grade 5 Math • Section 7.2

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Score: \_\_\_\_\_ / 17

## Quick Review and Helpful Hints

**Steps:** (1) Line up the decimal points. (2) Add zeros so both numbers have the same number of decimal places. (3) Subtract as with whole numbers (regroup if needed). (4) Place the decimal point in the answer directly below.

If the top digit is smaller than the bottom digit in any column, borrow from the next column to the left.

Watch for problems like  $5 - 2.38$ ; write 5 as 5.00 first.

**Example:** Subtract  $8.3 - 4.56$ .

Write 8.3 as 8.30. Then subtract:  $8.30 - 4.56 = 3.74$ .

**Answer:** 3.74

## Practice Problems

Subtract.

- |                           |                            |                            |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. $7.85 - 3.42 =$ _____  | 6. $15.25 - 7.8 =$ _____   | 11. $12.04 - 5.6 =$ _____  |
| 2. $5.6 - 2.38 =$ _____   | 7. $3.00 - 1.45 =$ _____   | 12. $100 - 47.63 =$ _____  |
| 3. $10 - 4.75 =$ _____    | 8. $8.502 - 4.36 =$ _____  | 13. $4.5 - 2.375 =$ _____  |
| 4. $9.004 - 3.56 =$ _____ | 9. $20.1 - 9.99 =$ _____   | 14. $7.001 - 3.9 =$ _____  |
| 5. $6.1 - 2.937 =$ _____  | 10. $0.75 - 0.089 =$ _____ | 15. $50.05 - 24.6 =$ _____ |

## Word Problems

16. A ribbon is 12.5 meters long. After cutting off 4.78 meters, how much remains? \_\_\_\_\_
17. Maya has \$20.00. She buys a book for \$13.65. How much change does she receive? \_\_\_\_\_



## Answer Keys

- |          |            |
|----------|------------|
| 1. 4.43  | 10. 0.661  |
| 2. 3.22  | 11. 6.44   |
| 3. 5.25  | 12. 52.37  |
| 4. 5.444 | 13. 2.125  |
| 5. 3.163 | 14. 3.101  |
| 6. 7.45  | 15. 25.45  |
| 7. 1.55  | 16. 7.72 m |
| 8. 4.142 | 17. \$6.35 |
| 9. 10.11 |            |

### Step-by-Step Explanations

1. Start with the main idea. For subtracting decimals, line up the decimal values and compute  $7.85 - 3.42 = 4.43$ . Write the given information first, then choose the operation that matches the situation.
2. Keep the work tidy. For subtracting decimals, line up the decimal values and compute  $5.6 - 2.38 = 3.22$ . A quick estimate helps confirm that the final answer is reasonable.
3. Look at what the numbers mean. For subtracting decimals, line up the decimal values and compute  $10 - 4.75 = 5.25$ . The explanation should show both the computation and why that computation fits the problem.
4. Use the setup first. For subtracting decimals, line up the decimal values and compute  $9.004 - 3.56 = 5.444$ . Write the given information first, then choose the operation that matches the situation.
5. Check the size of the answer. For subtracting decimals, line up the decimal values and compute  $6.1 - 2.937 = 3.163$ . A quick estimate helps confirm that the final answer is reasonable.
6. Match the operation to the words. For subtracting decimals, line up the decimal values and compute  $15.25 - 7.8 = 7.45$ . The explanation should show both the computation and why that computation fits the problem.
7. Write the important values first. For subtracting decimals, line up the decimal values and compute  $3.00 - 1.45 = 1.55$ . Write the given information first, then choose the operation that matches the situation.
8. Follow the pattern carefully. For subtracting decimals, line up the decimal values and compute  $8.502 - 4.36 = 4.142$ . A quick estimate helps confirm that the final answer is reasonable.
9. Start with the main idea. For subtracting decimals, line up the decimal values and compute  $20.1 - 9.99 = 10.11$ . The explanation should show both the

computation and why that computation fits the problem.

10. Keep the work tidy. For subtracting decimals, line up the decimal values and compute  $0.75 - 0.089 = 0.661$ . Write the given information first, then choose the operation that matches the situation.
11. Look at what the numbers mean. For subtracting decimals, line up the decimal values and compute  $12.04 - 5.6 = 6.44$ . A quick estimate helps confirm that the final answer is reasonable.
12. Use the setup first. For subtracting decimals, line up the decimal values and compute  $100 - 47.63 = 52.37$ . The explanation should show both the computation and why that computation fits the problem.
13. Check the size of the answer. For subtracting decimals, line up the decimal values and compute  $4.5 - 2.375 = 2.125$ . Write the given information first, then choose the operation that matches the situation.
14. Match the operation to the words. For subtracting decimals, line up the decimal values and compute  $7.001 - 3.9 = 3.101$ . A quick estimate helps confirm that the final answer is reasonable.
15. Write the important values first. For subtracting decimals, line up the decimal values and compute  $50.05 - 24.6 = 25.45$ . The explanation should show both the computation and why that computation fits the problem.
16. Follow the pattern carefully. For subtracting decimals, subtract the cut length:  $12.5 - 4.78 = 7.72$  m. Write the given information first, then choose the operation that matches the situation.
17. Start with the main idea. For subtracting decimals, subtract the cost from the money:  $20.00 - 13.65 = 6.35$ . A quick estimate helps confirm that the final answer is reasonable.



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