

Chapter 8

ADDING AND SUBTRACTING DECIMALS

When adding and subtracting numbers with decimals, line the decimal points up exactly on top of each other. The digits to the left of the decimal point (such as the ones, tens, and hundreds) should all line up with each other; the digits to the right of the decimal point (such as the tenths, hundredths, and thousandths) should also be aligned. Then you can add as you normally would and bring the decimal point straight down.

EXAMPLE: Find the sum of 6.45 and 23.34.

$$\begin{array}{r} 6.45 \\ +23.34 \\ \hline 29.79 \end{array}$$

Any time you add a whole number and a decimal, include the "invisible" decimal point to the right of the whole number.

EXAMPLE: Find the sum of \$5 and \$3.55.

$$\begin{array}{r} 3.55 \\ +5.00 \\ \hline \$8.55 \end{array} \quad (5 \text{ becomes } 5.00.)$$

When adding money, everything to the left of the decimal point represents whole dollars, and everything to the right represents cents, or parts of a dollar.

Do the same for subtraction—align the decimal points of each number, subtract, and drop down the decimal point.

EXAMPLE: Find the difference of 14.52 and 2.4.

$$\begin{array}{r} 14.52 \\ -2.40 \\ \hline 12.12 \end{array} \quad (2.4 \text{ becomes } 2.40 \text{—the value is the same.})$$



CHECK YOUR KNOWLEDGE

1. $\$5.89 + \9.23

2. $18.1876 + 4.3215$

3. $6 + 84.32$

4. $1,234.56 + 8,453.234$

5. $8.573 + 2.2 + 17.01$

6. $\$67.85 - \25.15

7. $100 - 6.781$

8. $99.09 - 98.29$

9. $14,327.81 - 2.6382$

10. Justin goes to the mall with $\$120$. He spends $\$54.67$ on clothes, $\$13.49$ on school supplies, and $\$8.14$ on lunch. How much does he have left?

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS



1. \$15.12

2. 22.5091

3. 90.32

4. 9,687.794

5. 27.783

6. \$42.70

7. 93.219

8. 0.8

9. 14,325.1718

10. \$43.70