Division Concepts and Facts: Math Hints and Reminders

Reviewing the Meaning of Division

Here's a little division vocabulary to refresh your memory:

Quotient	The answer to a division problem		
Dividend	The number to be divided in a division problem		
Divisor	The number by which a dividend is divided: the "goes into" number		
Fact Family	A group of related facts using the same set of numbers:		
	$5 \times 9 = 45$ $45 \div 9 = 5$		
	$9 \times 5 = 45$ $45 \div 5 = 9$		

There are two ways that you can write a division problem: $10 \div 2 = 5$ and $2)\overline{10}$. And believe it or not, there are three ways to think about division:

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Division as Sharing	Division as Repeated Subtraction	Division as the Opposite of Multiplication
Find 16 ÷ 4	Find 16 ÷ 8	Find 16 ÷ 2
Say you have 16 lollipops and you want to share them with 4 of your friends. How	Subtract 8 from 16. Continue to subtract 8 until you reach zero.	Put your multiplication facts to work.
many lollipops should each	5	Think: What number times
friend get?	16 - 8 = 8	2 equals 16?
	8 - 8 = 0	
		2 x 8 = 16 so 16 ÷ 2 = 8
	Now count how many times you subtracted: 2 times. So, 2 is the answer.	
Each friend gets 4 lollipops.		

Dividing with 2, 5, and 9

To divide by 2, 5, and 9, just take your basic multiplication facts and shake them up a little. To find $63 \div 9$, think: 9 times what number equals 63? 9 x **7** = 63. So, $63 \div 9 = 7$.

Special Quotients

Special numbers require special treatment! You cannot divide by zero – not ever! You can say $0 \div 2 = 0$, but you can never say $2 \div 0$. You'll be in good shape if you memorize these rules for dividing by 0 and 1.

Division rules for 0	Division rules for 1	
 0 divided by any number (except 0) is 0. You cannot divide by 0 (0 can never be a "divisor"). 	 Any number divided by 1 is that number. Any number divided by itself (except 0) is 1. 	
Look at the fact family for 0, 0, and 4:	Look at the fact family for 1, 8, and 8:	
$\begin{array}{ll} 4 \times 0 = 0 & 0 \div 4 = 0 \\ 0 \times 4 = 0 & 4 \div 0 = \text{Can't do it!} \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{llllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllll$	
You can also write: <u>0</u> 4) 0 but you can't write 0) 4.		

Dividing with 3, 4, 6, 7, and 8

Multiplication can help you divide by 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8. What's $28 \div 7$? Think: 7 times what number equals 28? 7 x **4** = 28. So, $28 \div 7 = 4$.

If you're consistently finding the wrong quotients, it may be that you don't have your multiplication facts down. Remember, there is no trick to memorizing multiplication facts; you just have to do it!

Exploring Even and Odd Numbers

No matter how big a number is, if it has 0, 2, 4, 6, or 8 in the ones place, it's even. If it has 1, 3, 5, 7, or 9 in the ones place, it's odd. For example: 42,000,003 is an odd number.

Even numbers can be divided into two equal groups. Odd numbers cannot be divided into two equal groups. 1 will always be left over.