

# Read About Division Using Partial Quotients (The Big 7 Model)

## WHAT IS DIVISION USING PARTIAL QUOTIENTS?

A quotient is the result of division. Partial quotients are a method to solve larger division problems by breaking the process into multiple smaller division problems.

*To better understand division using partial quotients...*

## LET'S BREAK IT DOWN!

### Gumball Machine

Let's say you have a gumball machine with 63 gumballs. You want to share these gumballs equally among 3 people. How many gumballs does each person get? You can solve this problem by giving each person one gumball at a time until they are all divided, but this would take a long time! Instead, you



could give each person 2, 5, or even 10 gumballs at a time. If you give each person 10 gumballs, then you have shared 30 gumballs. There are  $63 - 30 = 33$  gumballs left to share. You could then share 10 more gumballs with each person, sharing another 30 gumballs. There are  $33 - 30 = 3$  gumballs left to share. If you give each person 1 more gumball then all the gumballs have been shared. Each person received  $10 + 10 + 1 = 21$  gumballs. We call 10, 10, and 1 "partial quotients." They are each a part of the final quotient. You can use the Big 7 method to record your work. You can make a big 7 and write the dividend and divisor at the top. On the outside of the 7, you record your partial quotients (10, 10, 1). On the inside of the 7, you record your subtractions. You can find different partial quotients for the same division problem. You could give each person 20

gumballs to start. There are  $63 - 60 = 3$  gumballs left. Then you could give each person 1 more gumball. They would each have  $20 + 1 = 21$  gumballs. Now you try: Use the Big 7 method to show how to share 63 gumballs between 2 people.

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## Hats for a School Party

Let's say you need 435 hats and want to order equal amounts of 6 different hat types. How many of each hat should you order? You can find the answer by finding  $435 \div 6 = ?$  Solve with partial quotients by making the big 7 and writing the 435 and 6 at the top. Think about different products you can make



with 6 and another number.  $6 \times 50 = 300$  is a number close to 435. Write 50 as a partial quotient and record  $435 - 300 = 135$  inside the 7. There is 135 left to divide.  $6 \times 20 = 120$ , so write 20 as a partial quotient and record  $135 - 120 = 15$  inside the 7. There is 15 left to divide.  $6 \times 2 = 12$ , so write 2 as a partial quotient and write  $15 - 12 = 3$  inside the 7. 3 is less than 6 so the 3 cannot be equally divided. The quotient is  $50 + 20 + 2 = 72$ .  $435 \div 6 = 72$  with 3 remaining. If you want to order equal amounts of each type of hat and have at least 435 hats, you will need to order 73 hats of each type. Now you try: Use the Big 7 method to show how to order 385 hats of 2 different hat types.

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## Cake Pops

Let's say you've made 387 cake pops and you need to divide them equally onto 12 trays to serve at a party. How many cake pops should you put on each tray? You can find the answer by finding  $387 \div 12 = ?$  Solve with partial quotients by making the big 7 and writing the 387 and 12 at the top.



Think about different products you can make with 12 and another number.  $12 \times 20 = 240$  is a number close to 387. Write 20 as a partial quotient and record  $387 - 240 = 147$  inside the 7.  $12 \times 10 = 120$ . Write 10 as a partial quotient and record  $147 - 120 = 27$  inside the 7.  $12 \times 2 = 24$ . Write 2 as a partial quotient and record  $27 - 24 = 3$  inside the 7. The quotient is  $20 + 10 + 2 = 32$  with 3 remaining. You could put 32 cake pops on each tray and then eat the 3 left over! Now you try: Use the Big 7 method to show how you can place 449 cake pops on 14 trays.

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## Money

Let's say you raised \$5,325 for local charities. Way to go! You want to divide it equally among 25 different local charities. How much does each charity receive? You can find the answer by finding  $5,325 \div 25 = ?$  Solve with partial quotients by making the big 7 and writing the 5,325 and 25 at the top. Think about different products you can make with 25 and another number.  $25 \times 100 = 2,500$ , so



write 100 as a partial quotient and record  $5,325 - 2,500 = 2,825$  inside the 7. Since  $2,825 > 2,500$ , you can use 100 as a partial quotient again. Write 100 outside the 7 and record  $2,825 - 2,500 = 325$  inside the 7.  $25 \times 8 = 200$ , so write 8 as a partial quotient and record  $325 - 200 = 125$  inside the 7.  $25 \times 5 = 125$ , so write 5 as a partial quotient and record  $125 - 125 = 0$  inside the 7. The quotient is  $100 + 100 + 8 + 5 = 213$ . There is no remainder, so each charity receives exactly \$213. Now you try: Use the Big 7 method to show how you could share \$2,016 equally among 18 charities.

## DIVISION USING PARTIAL QUOTIENTS (THE BIG 7 MODEL) VOCABULARY

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### Quotient

The number that is the result of the division.

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### Partial Quotient

A method to solve larger division problems by breaking the process into multiple smaller division problems.

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**Remainder**

The number left after a division is completed.

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**Factor**

A number that, when multiplied by another number, gives a product.

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**Dividend**

The number that is divided in a division expression.

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**Divisor**

The number that divides another number in a division expression.

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## **DIVISION USING PARTIAL QUOTIENTS (THE BIG 7 MODEL) DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

### **What are partial quotients?**

Partial quotients are all the lesser quotients that I find in the process of finding the full quotient. I add the partial quotients together to find the full quotient.

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### **In the Big 7 method, where do you record the partial quotients? Where do you record how much is left to divide?**

I record the partial quotients on the right side of the 7. I record the subtractions showing how much is left on the left (inside) of the 7.

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### **When using partial quotients, does it matter how many you put in each group in each round?**

It is more efficient to find fewer partial quotients (using greater numbers divided in each round), but any combination is correct as long as the sum of the partial quotients is the same. So, if the quotient is 25, partial quotients could be  $10 + 10 + 5$ , or  $20 + 5$ , or other variations.

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### **Is the process of finding partial quotients different if the divisor has 1 digit or 2 digits? Explain.**

No. Regardless of the size of the divisor, I can subtract multiples of the divisor from the dividend and record partial quotients outside the 7.

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### **How can you use the Big 7 method to find $847 \div 3$ ?**

I start by drawing the big 7 and writing 847 and 3 at the top. Then I find products of 3 and other numbers that I can subtract from the dividend, 847.  $3 \times 200 = 600$  is a number close to 847. Write 200 as a partial quotient and record  $847 - 600 = 247$  inside the 7. There is 247 left to divide.  $3 \times 60 = 180$ . Write 60 as a partial quotient and record  $247 - 180 = 67$  inside the 7. There is 67 left to divide.  $3 \times 20 = 60$ . Write 20 as a partial quotient and record  $67 - 60 = 7$  inside the 7. Lastly,  $3 \times 2 = 6$ . Write 2 as a partial quotient and record  $7 - 6 = 1$  inside the 7. The quotient is the total of the partial quotients:  $200 + 60 + 20 + 2 = 282$  with 1 remaining.

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