

3rd Grade Math: Money Subtraction

What is Money Subtraction?

- **Money subtraction** is when you subtract one amount of money from another to find out how much is left. This is useful when you're calculating how much change you should get or how much you have left after spending.
- Like with addition, when subtracting money, you must keep track of **dollars** and **cents**, and line up the numbers by the **decimal point**.

How to Subtract Money

1. **Step 1: Line up the Numbers**
2. Write the amounts so that the **dollars** and **cents** line up with each other. This means aligning the decimal points.
3. **Step 2: Subtract the Cents**

Start by subtracting the cents. If you need to borrow from the dollars, remember that **100 cents = 1 dollar**.

4. **Step 3: Subtract the Dollars**

After subtracting the cents, subtract the dollars.

Example 1: Subtracting Money

Problem:

You have \$7.50. You spend \$3.25. How much money do you have left?

Steps:

1. Line up the numbers by the decimal point:

$$7.50 - 3.25$$

2. Subtract the cents:

$$50 \text{ cents} - 25 \text{ cents} = 25 \text{ cents}$$

3. Subtract the dollars:

$$7 \text{ dollars} - 3 \text{ dollars} = 4 \text{ dollars}$$

Answer:

You have \$4.25 left.

Example 2: Buying a Toy

Problem:

You have \$10.00, and you buy a toy for \$6.75. How much money do you have left?

Steps:

1. Line up the numbers by the decimal point:

$$10.00 - 6.75$$

2. Subtract the cents:

$$0 \text{ cents} - 75 \text{ cents}$$

You need to **borrow** 1 dollar (which is 100 cents), so:

$$100 \text{ cents} - 75 \text{ cents} = 25 \text{ cents}$$

3. Subtract the dollars: After borrowing 1 dollar, you are left with \$9.00:

$$9 \text{ dollars} - 6 \text{ dollars} = 3 \text{ dollars}$$

Answer:

You have \$3.25 left.

Example 3: Subtracting with Borrowing

Problem:

You have \$5.30. You spend \$2.85. How much money do you have left?

Steps:

1. Line up the numbers by the decimal point:

$$5.30 - 2.85$$

2. Subtract the cents:

30 cents is smaller than 85 cents, so you need to **borrow** 1 dollar (100 cents):

$$130 \text{ cents} - 85 \text{ cents} = 45 \text{ cents}$$

3. Subtract the dollars:

After borrowing 1 dollar, you're left with \$4.00:

$$4 \text{ dollars} - 2 \text{ dollars} = 2 \text{ dollars}$$

Answer:

You have \$2.45 left.

Conclusion:

- To subtract money, always **line up the decimal points** so the dollars and cents are in the correct places.
- If you need to subtract more cents than you have, **borrow** from the dollars, remembering that **100 cents = 1 dollar**.
- Practice will help you get better at subtracting money, especially when borrowing is involved!