Divisibility Rules

By Janine Bouyssounouse

The divisibility rules make math easier. Did you ever wonder how people could tell if something was divisible by a number just by looking at it? These rules are how they do it. Memorize a few simple rules and simplifying fractions and prime factorization will be so much easier.

Number	Divisibility Rule	Example
Two (2)	A number is divisible by two if it is	642 is divisible by two
	even. Another way to say a word is	because it ends in a
	even is to say it ends in 0, 2, 4, 6 or 8.	two, which makes it an
		even number
Three	A number is divisible by three if the	423 is divisible by three
(3)	sum of the digits adds up to a	because $4 + 2 + 3 = 9$.
	multiple of three.	Since nine is a multiple
		of three (or is divisible
		by three), then 423 is
		divisible by three
Four (4)	A number is divisible by four if it is	128 is divisible by four
	even and can be divided by two twice.	because half of it is 64
		and 64 is still divisible
		by two
Five (5)	A number is divisible by five if it ends	435 is divisible by five
	in a five or a zero.	because it ends in a five
Six (6)	A number is divisible by six if it is	222 is divisible by six
	divisible by both two and three.	because it is even, so it
		is divisible by two and
		its digits add up to six,
		which makes it divisible
		by three
Nine (9)	A number is divisible by nine if the	9243 is divisible by
	sum of the digits adds up to a	nine because the sum of
	multiple of nine. This rule is similar to	the digits adds up to
	the divisibility rule for three.	eighteen, which is a
		multiple of nine
Ten (10)	A number is divisible by ten if it ends	730 is divisible by ten
	in a zero. This rule is similar to the	because it ends in zero
	divisibility rule for five.	

Divisibility Rules Practice Problems

Number		Divisible By:							
Example: 10	2	3	4	5	6	9	10		
15	2	3	4	5	6	9	10		
27	2	3	4	5	6	9	10		
36	2	3	4	5	6	9	10		
16	2	3	4	5	6	9	10		
28	2	3	4	5	6	9	10		
57	2	3	4	5	6	9	10		
102	2	3	4	5	6	9	10		
268	2	3	4	5	6	9	10		
4518	2	3	4	5	6	9	10		
93	2	3	4	5	6	9	10		
144	2	3	4	5	6	9	10		
256	2	3	4	5	6	9	10		
75	2	3	4	5	6	9	10		
450	2	3	4	5	6	9	10		
70	2	3	4	5	6	9	10		

Use the divisibility rules to circle the answers.

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