

Year 4



Multiplication Tables Check

This year, all schools and academies in England are required to administer an online multiplication tables check (MTC) to year 4 pupils.

The national curriculum specifies that pupils should be taught to recall the multiplication tables up to and including 12×12 by the end of year 4.

The purpose of the MTC is to determine whether pupils can recall their times tables fluently, which is essential for future success in mathematics.

It will help schools to identify pupils who have not yet mastered their times tables, so that additional support can be provided.

The test is taken online and there are 25 times tables questions with three practice questions. **Children will use an I-Pad to complete the test.**

When the questions start, the children have 6 seconds to answer each question. The system automatically accepts an answer after 6 seconds. The children can move on faster than 6 seconds by pressing the 'Enter' button. There is a 3-second pause between each question.

As you can imagine, this is quite a fast-paced check so we will be supporting the children with strategies to help them work quickly!

Ways to help at home

- Create a colourful poster with your child in a grid format showing all the times tables written in full. Here's a short excerpt to show you what this might look like:

$1 \times 1 = 1$	$2 \times 1 = 2$	$3 \times 1 = 3$
$1 \times 2 = 2$	$2 \times 2 = 4$	$3 \times 2 = 6$
$1 \times 3 = 3$	$2 \times 3 = 6$	$3 \times 3 = 9$

- Cross out the related facts; for example, 2×1 , 3×2 and the facts are suddenly reduced!
- You could then cross out any facts that are related to Key Stage 1 expectations like the 1, 2, 5 and 10 times tables (if your child is secure with these) and then you are left with only a few facts to learn.

2. Practise times tables by rote (old-fashioned chanting of each multiplication table)

3. Ask your child times tables questions out of order all the time – in the car, at the shops, at the table i.e. ‘What is 9×8 ?’

4. Focus on related facts i.e. ‘If I know that 3×6 is 18, what do I also know? $6 \times 3 = 18$, $18 \div 3 = 6$ and $18 \div 6 = 3$ ’

5. Use visual arrays to show multiplication sentences and help your child memorise times tables – incorporate household objects and sweets for fun!



6. Use apps and games to help build speed. Recommended website:

<https://www.timestables.co.uk/multiplication-tables-check/>

7. Sing times tables songs (there are songs online to play and learn). These are surprisingly catchy!

Did you know that...

- ✓ In Year 1, children are taught counting up in 2s, 5s and 10s.
- ✓ In Year 2, children are introduced to multiplication, division facts and repeated addition for numbers 2, 5 and 10.
- ✓ In Year 3, children learn multiplication facts for the 3, 4 and 8 times tables.
- ✓ In Year 4, children learn all multiplication facts up to 12×12 .
- ✓ Children should be **very confident** in all their times tables by the start of Y5.

For more information on how we teach addition, subtraction, multiplication and division please see our calculation policy.