

## Lesson 20: Subtract Numbers with Decimals

**Purpose of Lesson:** You will learn how to subtract numbers with decimals.



Subtraction of numbers with decimals is very much like subtraction of regular numbers. However, it is important that you put the decimal points in the correct place!

This is what we mean:

**Examples:**

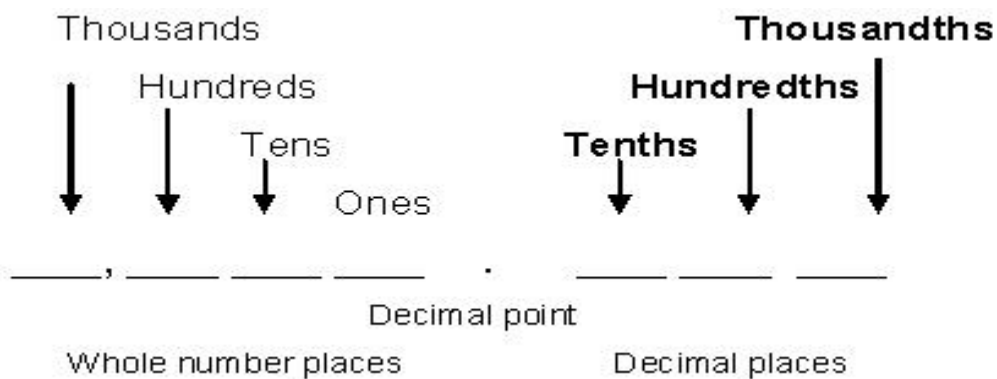
a)  $7.52 - 3.1 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

Is set up this way:

$$\begin{array}{r} 7.52 \\ - 3.1 \\ \hline 4.42 \end{array}$$

**Notice that the decimal points are lined up the way they are written!**

Subtract as usual.



b)  $9.432 - 0.15 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

$$\begin{array}{r} \phantom{9}^3\phantom{.}^13 \\ 9.432 \\ - 0.15 \\ \hline 9.282 \end{array}$$

c)  $76.1 - 21.098$  To solve this problem we need some help from **zeros (00)**.

$\begin{array}{r} 76.1 \\ - 21.098 \\ \hline \end{array}$	<p><b>You would rewrite it like this in order to solve.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">→</p>	$\begin{array}{r} \phantom{0}^0 \phantom{0}^9 \phantom{0}^{10} \\ 76.1 \mathbf{00} \\ - 21.098 \\ \hline 55.002 \end{array}$	<p><b>Add two zeros to help with borrowing and to keep your places even.</b></p>
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Once you added the two zeros, you begin to subtract.

You cannot subtract the thousandths column so you move to the hundredths column in order to borrow. Again you are unable to subtract or borrow, so you move to the tenths column.

Borrow **1** in the tenths place making it a **0** and makes the hundredth's column a **10**. Now you can borrow from the **10** making it a **9** in the hundredths column. Now the thousandths place becomes a **10**.

Now you can subtract (10-8) in the thousandths column, (9-9) in the hundredths column and (0-0) in the tenths column.

d) Problems with money may also require adding **zeros**:

$\$50 - \$19.95 =$	$\begin{array}{r} \phantom{0}^9 \phantom{0}^9 \\ \phantom{0}^4 \phantom{0}^{10} \phantom{0}^{10} \phantom{0}^{10} \\ \$50.00 \\ - 19.95 \\ \hline \$30.05 \end{array}$
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Now it's your turn to try some!

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