

Order of Operations (BIDMAS)

In addition to these approaches for the four basic operations above, there is a set of rules which tells you which order you must do operations (like add, divide etc) to answer a calculation correctly. We carry out all calculations in this order:

Brackets

Indices

Multiplication and **Division** (at the same time answering from left to right)

Addition and **Subtraction** (at the same time answering from left to right)

E.g. Calculate:

$36 \div 4 + (5 - 3) \times 7^2$ ← Brackets are always calculated first

$36 \div 4 + 2 \times 7^2$ ← Now there are no brackets, so we calculate indices (powers) next

$36 \div 4 + 2 \times 49$ ← Multiplication and division are next. We always calculate these from left to right, in the order they appear in the calculation

$9 + 98$ ← Finally we add

107

Video: <https://youtu.be/if8ZsZXhQJE> (Order of operations)