

Estimating in Multiplication

If you don't need an exact result, you can estimate. To estimate the result of a multiplication, round some or all of the factors so that you can easily multiply *mentally*.

Estimate 8×189 .

189 can be rounded to 200. The estimated product is $8 \times 200 = 1,600$.

Estimate 42×78 .

 $42 \approx 40$ and $78 \approx 80$. The estimated product is $40 \times 80 = 3,200$.

Estimate $21 \times \$4.52$.

First round the numbers to 20 and \$4.50. Then, since $2 \times 4.50 is nine dollars, $20 \times 4.50 is ten times that, or \$90.

1. Estimate the results by rounding one or both factors. Don't round both numbers if you can multiply in your head just by rounding one factor.

a. 5 × 69	b. 11 × 58	c. 119 × 8
≈×=	≈=_	≈×=
d. 27 × 52	e. 7 × \$4.15	f. 8 × \$11.79
≈×=	≈=	≈=
g. 25 × \$42.50	h. 9 × 17	i. 63 × 897
≈×=	≈=	≈=_

2. Estimate the total cost. Round one or both numbers so that you can multiply in your head. Write a number sentence to show your multiplication with rounded numbers.

a. 24 chairs at \$44.95 per chair	b. 512 Popsicles at 19¢ each
c. 210 meters of wire at \$1.49 per meter	d. Six tennis balls that cost \$3.37 each and two rackets that cost \$11.90 each.