



# NUMBER TOTALS INVESTIGATION

- 1) Use the digits and operations below to make 6 different answers.
- You can use the symbols more than once, but you can only use the digits once in each combination.
  - The digits **can** be combined into 2 digit numbers if you wish.
    - For example, you could have  $37 + 8$ , or  $3 + 7 + 8$ .
  - You can also use brackets where appropriate.
  - Exponents are not allowed.

3	7	8	+	-	x	÷	=
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2) What is the biggest number you can make?

3) What is the smallest number you can make?



# NUMBER TOTALS INVESTIGATION ANSWERS

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- You can use the symbols more than once, but you can only use the digits once in each combination.
  - The digits **can** be combined into 2 digit numbers if you wish.
    - For example, you could have  $37 + 8$ , or  $3 + 78$ .
  - You can also use brackets where appropriate.
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There are many different answers you can make using the digits and symbols.

Here are 10 of them:

$3 + 7 + 8 = 18$	$37 + 8 = 45$	$3 + 7 - 8 = 2$	$3 \times 7 - 8 = 13$	$3 \times (7 + 8) = 45$
$8 - 7 - 3 = -2$	$8 + 7 \times 3 = 29$	$87 - 3 = 84$	$83 - 7 = 76$	$7 \times (8 - 3) = 35$

2) What is the biggest number you can make?

$$73 \times 8 = 584$$

3) What is the smallest number you can make?

$$3 - 87 = -84,$$

or possibly  $-73 \times 8 = -584$  if you are using the subtraction symbol as a negative sign;

the smallest positive number would be  $3 \div 87 \approx 0.034$