

Year 6 Times Tables: A Step-by-Step Guide for Parents

This step-by-step explanation to year 6 times tables can help you support your child's learning at home. The subject is broken down into manageable chunks, providing you with a simple guide to follow when learning about year 6 times tables, either to support your child's homework or if you decide to give your child some extra support. In this guide, you will find a step that matches your child's level of understanding and then have suggested activities which can be used to support that step.

Within **this area of the website**, you will find a selection of resources intended to help your child learn about each step of this guide. Each step also contains a keyword or phrase that you can use to search the Twinkl site for more resources and activities, designed to support your child in achieving that stage. Simply type the keyword or phrase into the search bar and press enter to explore together.

 

We hope you find the information on our website and resources useful. The contents of this resource are for general, informational purposes only. This guide is intended to offer parents general guidance on what subject areas tend to be covered in their child's year group and where they could support their children at home. However, please be aware that every child is different and information can quickly become out of date. There are some subject areas that we have intentionally not covered due to the nature of how they are taught or because a trained professional needs to teach these areas. We try to ensure that the information in our resources is correct but every school teaches the national curriculum in its own way. If you would like further guidance or are unsure in any way, we recommend that you speak to your child's teacher or another suitably qualified professional.

Times Tables

Why Are Times Tables so Important?

Having a strong knowledge of the times tables will help children in other areas of maths, not just in school, but throughout their lives. Times tables are needed in nearly every area of maths such as fractions, ratio and proportion, division and multiplication, area and perimeter and much more.

By year 4, children are expected to know all the times tables (up to 12×12) and the related division facts such as knowing that $12 \div 4 = 3$ is a division fact of $3 \times 4 = 12$.

For this reason, times tables are first introduced in year 1 to give children the time and experience they need to master them. From year 1 to year 4, new times tables are introduced each year so that children can master them in stages.

What Times Tables Are Children Expected to Know in Year 6?

Prior to year 6, children are expected to have learnt all their times tables up to 12×12 , and the related division facts. This knowledge of times tables will help children with the year 6 maths curriculum, such as finding factors; column multiplication; formal division; calculating fractions, algebra and much more.

Throughout year 6, it is important that children continue to practise the times tables at home to develop their speed and accuracy with multiplication and division facts.

This guide will help you support the learning of year 6 times tables at home. Each step contains an explanation to that stage and a link to an appropriate resource which can be used at home to support your child's learning.

As well as using the resources in this category, and the keyword searches to help your child with times tables, below are a few ideas for games and activities to help your child practise times tables at home.

Say the Next Number

This is a very simple but fun way to practise counting in steps. Simply choose a step you wish to count in with your child (such as 3s, 4s or 8s) and then start the sequence. Each person joining in has to say the next number in the sequence when it is their turn. For example, when counting in 8s, the sequence would be: 8, 16, 24, 32, 40 and so forth.

Quick Touch

This is a really fun way to practise times tables and all you need is a sheet of paper and a pen. Choose the times table you wish to practise and write all the multiples in that times table on the paper. They should be spread out, in random order and big enough to touch each number separately. Next, set a timer for one minute, ask quick-fire multiplication questions (such as 6×4 , or 7×4) and your child has to touch the right answer. Record how many times they get it right, play it again and see if they can beat their previous score.

Times Tables Dance Mat

This fun activity involves touching the right answers with your foot, just like the dance games in an arcade. On twelve sheets of paper, write a multiple for a times table on each sheet (for example, if practising the 3s, write 3, 6, 9, 12, etc.). Then, make a circle of all the multiples with the numbers facing inwards. They should be in mixed order with space in the middle of the circle for a person to stand. Ask your child to stand in the middle. Say a multiplication question, such as 8×3 , and they have to touch the correct answer with their foot. Do this repeatedly, gradually getting faster.

Times Table Song

There are a multitude of times tables songs online which you could use to help your child practise singing their times tables. Alternatively, you could make up your own times table song with your child. Simply choose a popular song or nursery rhyme your child knows really well, and then add the numbers of the times table to the tune instead of the words. This can be a really fun and enjoyable way to learn times tables.

Step 1

Learning Times Tables

Although children are taught all the times tables and the division facts by the end of year 4, you may find that your child has gaps in their knowledge and may need to learn certain times tables which they haven't mastered. At home, you can use this **2 to 12 Times Tables Multiplication Wheels Bumper Worksheet Pack** to help support your child. They can complete these sheets individually. If there any times tables they struggle with, you can make this the focus of your times tables practice at home through fun activities and games.

Practising Times Tables and Division Facts

If your child is confident with their times tables, you will need to continue practising these at home so they can maintain quick recall of the multiplication and division facts. This can be done through fun games, songs and activities, such as the ones suggested above, to make the practice informal and fun. You can also use boardgames, such as this **KS2 Mathopoly Times Tables Game**, or crafts, such as these **Times Tables Fortune Tellers**.

Step 2

Step 3

Problem Solving

Once your child has mastered the times tables, they can try to apply that knowledge to problems. At school, children are encouraged to apply their knowledge of times tables to solve multiplication problems.

Try these **KS2 One Step Multiplication Word Problems Maths Challenge Cards** at home to help your child practise solving problems. You can support your child by helping them to understand what calculation they have to do in each problem by picking out the key information. For example, in the following problem:

The mechanic has to change all the tyres on the cars in the garage. Each car has four tyres. There are eight cars altogether. How many tyres does he have to change?

The key information is that there are 8 cars, and each has 4 tyres, so the calculation needed is 8×4 . Once the calculation is known, the answer can be worked out using times tables: $8 \times 4 = 32$.



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Imagine resources are designed to help your children to think creatively, question and imagine. Every week, a new topic consisting of five photos, each with related activities, is created.



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Twinkl Originals are engaging stories written to inspire children from EYFS to KS2. Designed to encourage a love of reading and help curriculum-wide learning through accompanying resources.



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Twinkl Kids' TV is our wonderful YouTube channel dedicated to fun and informative video-style resources full of new and creative activities you can try at home!