

**Symbols from books 1 through 3.**

- + This is a plus sign. It means plus, or add.  
Example:  $2 + 3$  means 2 plus 3.
- This is a minus sign. It means minus or subtract.  
Example:  $7 - 2$  means 7 minus 2.
- × This is a times sign. It means times, or multiplied by.  
Example:  $3 \times 4$  means 3 times 4.
- This also means times. Example:  $2 \bullet 3$  means 2 times 3.
- \* This also means times. It is often used in computer programming.  
Example:  $3 * 4$  means 3 times 4
- ÷ This means divided by.  
Example:  $10 \div 5$  means 10 divided by 5.
- $\overline{)}$  This means divided by or divided into.  
  
Example:  $4\overline{)12}$  means 12 divided by 4, or 4 into 12  
  
Notice how when you say divided by, you read the problem backwards, 12 divided by 4.
- = This is an equal sign. It means “is equal to”, or “equals”.  
Example:  $2 + 2 = 4$  means 2 plus 2 equals 4  
or 2 plus 2 is equal to 4.
- > This is a greater than sign. It means “is greater than”.  
Example:  $3 > 2$  means 3 is greater than 2.
- < This is a less than sign. It means “is less than”.  
Example:  $1 < 4$  means 1 is less than 4.
- .
- this is a decimal point. Example: In 3.2 the 3 and the 2 are separated by a decimal point.

- this symbol in a fraction shows it is a fraction. It means divided by.  
Example:  $\frac{2}{3}$  is 2 divided by 3, and is the fraction two-thirds.
- a symbol for “per” when talking about ratios.  
(He ate  $\frac{2 \text{ fish}}{\text{meal}}$  .) (The car went  $\frac{60 \text{ miles}}{\text{hour}}$  .)
- a symbol that can be read “out of” when talking about ratios.  
 $\frac{4}{100} = 4 \text{ out of } 100 = 4\%$
- a symbol that can be read “to” when talking about ratios.  
(  $\frac{2}{3}$  is read 2 to 3.)
- / this symbol means the same as the above fraction symbol. It is often used to make typing easier. Example:  $2/3$  is the fraction two-thirds or 2 divided by 3.
- / a symbol for “per” when talking about ratios.  
(He ate 2 fish/meal.) (The car went 60 miles/hour.)
- / a symbol that can be read “out of” when talking about ratios.  
(4/100 means 4 out of 100 or 4%).
- / a symbol that can be read “to” when talking about ratios.  
(  $\frac{2}{3}$  is read 2 to 3.)
- : this symbol in a ratio means “out of” “per” or “to”.  
( 3:5 means 3 out of 5 , or 3 per 5 , or 3 to 5.)
- % - the symbol for percent. It comes from the digits of the number 100.  
The slash is the 1, and the two circles are the two zeros.  
Percent means per hundred.
- $\overline{.72}$  a bar over part of a decimal means those numbers repeat on and on.  
(  $\overline{.72}$  means  $.72727272\dots$  )
- \$ dollar sign