

Grades 2-3: Adding using a Place Value Chart

- A place value chart is a picture showing how numbers break down into the ones place, tens place, hundreds place, and so on. It can help with addition and subtraction (and even multiplication and division, too!).
- This skill sheet focuses on **adding numbers up to three digits** (one, tens, and hundreds). However, you can make a place value chart that goes all the way to the trillions place or higher—just keep adding columns to the left.
- Here is what the number 256 looks like on a place value chart. The 6 black circles are ones. The 5 blue rectangles are tens. The 2 red squares are hundreds.

Hundreds	Tens	Ones

Let's use the place value chart to add 256 + 311:

- 1) Start by again **drawing in the shapes for the ones, tens, and hundreds of the first number**, **256**. Even though you might want to start by drawing in the hundreds first, *it's a good idea to draw your ones first*.
- 2) Next, draw the shapes for the ones, tens, and hundreds of the second number, 311. We can draw these right underneath the shapes for the first number.
- 3) As long as there are no more than 9 ones, tens, or hundreds, we just **count up the total number of shapes in each**place value, and we have our final answer. 256 + 311 = 567

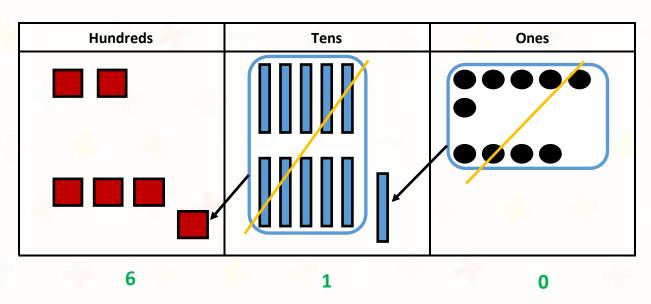
Hundreds	Tens	Ones

IMPORTANT RULES:

- ⇒ If you ever have 10 or more in your ones, tens, or hundreds place, you need to bundle them and cash them in for 1 of the next place value up. For example, you cash in a bundle of 10 ones for 1 ten, and you cash in a bundle of 10 tens for 1 hundred.
- ⇒ You also have to start bundling in your ones place, or the final answer will come out wrong.

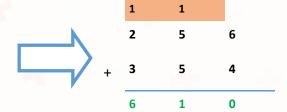
Look at the example to see how we use bundling when we add 256 + 354:

- 1) First, draw in the ones, tens, and hundreds for the first number, 256. Right below these, draw in the ones, tens and hundreds for the second number, 354.
- 2) We have 10 ones, so we draw a circle (or something similar) around the group of 10 ones. The arrow shows that we cash in these 10 ones for 1 ten. The orange diagonal line shows the 10 ones are gone from the ones place after we cash them in.
- 3) We now have 11 tens, so we draw a circle (or something similar) around a group of 10 tens. The arrow shows that we cash in these 10 tens for 1 hundred. The orange diagonal line shows these 10 tens are gone from the tens place after we cash them in.
- 4) Since we don't have 10 or more hundreds, we are done bundling. To find our final answer, we can count up how many unbundled ones, tens, and hundreds there are now in each place. There are 0 ones, 1 ten, and 6 hundreds, so the answer is 610.



What about adding the numbers vertically?

- The bundling and cashing in helps show why we carry a
 number to the next place value when adding up numbers vertically, "the old way."
- For example, using the place value chart, we show that 10 ones are really the same thing as 1 ten, so it makes sense to bundle and cash them in. That's what carrying the one means: adding one more to the next highest place.



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