

Grades 4-5: Multiplying & Dividing Using a Place Value Chart

- A place value chart is a way to show how numbers break down into the ones place, tens place, hundreds place, and so on. The chart helps show that numbers go up one place value when they are multiplied by ten and go down one place value when divided by ten.
- Instead of thinking about moving the decimal place to the right (multiplying by ten) or to the left (dividing by ten), we think about the numbers moving to the left (getting bigger when multiplied) or right (getting smaller when divided).
- Here is how we can use the chart to model the number 253.8.

Thousands	Hundreds	Tens	Ones	•	Tenths	Hundredths
	2	5	3	•	8	

Now, let's use the place value chart to multiply 253.8 x 10

- 1) We start by modeling 253.8 as shown above.
- 2) We move each digit one place value to the left to show that we are multiplying by ten. This makes sense because 10 ones equal 1 ten, 10 tens equal 1 hundred, and so on.
- 3) Instead of 8 tenths, we now have 80 tenths, which equals 8 ones. We have 30 ones, which equals 3 tens. We have 50 tens, which we can think of as 5 hundreds, and we have 20 hundreds, which we can think of as 2 thousands.
- 4) The final answer is **2,538**. We can include the decimal in our answer, but we don't have to since there are 0 tenths, hundredths, and so on.

Thousands	Hundreds	Tens	Ones	•	Tenths	Hundredths
× 10	2 *10	5 × 10	3	×10	,8	
2	5	3	8		0	

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Grades 4-5: Dividing Using a Place Value Chart

Now, let's use the place value chart to divide 253.8 ÷ 10.

- 1) We start by modeling 253.8 as shown above.
- 2) We move each digit one place value to the right to show that we are dividing by ten. This makes sense because $100 \div 10 = 10$, $10 \div 10 = 1$, $1 \div 10 = 1/10$, and so on.
- 3) Instead of 8 tenths, which can also be thought of as 80 hundredths, we now have 8 hundredths ($80 \div 10 = 8$). We have 3 tenths instead of 3 ones. We have 5 ones instead of 5 tens, and we have 2 tens instead of 2 hundreds. In other words, each digit from the original number has shifted one place to the right, or one place value down.
- 4) The final answer is **25.38.** We have to include the decimal point in our answer this time since we have 3 tenths and 8 hundredths.

Thousands	Hundreds	Tens	Ones	•	Tenths	Hundredths
	2	*10 ⁵	*10 3		* 10 8	* 10
		2	5		3	8

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