

~~Sum~~ Roman Sums

The Roman number system operates by having a fixed number of symbols.

M	D	C	L	X	V	I
1000	500	100	50	10	5	1

Numbers are built up by placing these symbols to the left or to the right of each other.

High value symbols are usually placed to the left – with lower value symbols to the right.

EXAMPLES

- $MDCXXV = 1000 + 500 + 100 + 10 + 10 + 5 = 1625$
- $CCLVI = 100 + 100 + 50 + 5 + 1 = 256$

Symbols placed to the left of a higher symbol are subtracted.

EXAMPLES

- $MCM = 1000 + (-10 + 1000) = 1900$
- $XC = -10 + 100 = 90$

So far, so good. Can you work out a system of adding numbers together?

TRY THESE

CCXLVI + CCCXII
CLXXII + CCCXXVII
MXL + DLXIII

What about subtraction?

TRY THESE

CCCLXIV - CCXII
CLXXX - LXXIV
MCCXLVI - CCCLXIX



If you want a REAL CHALLENGE, try working out a method for MULTIPLYING numbers together. If you want a clue, try using a system of cups and beads And start with easy numbers!