



BIDMAS stands for

1. **Brackets**- perform any calculation inside a bracket before anything else. The calculation inside the bracket is also subject to BIDMAS.
2. **Indices**- also called powers or exponents. These are a shorthand for saying “multiply this by itself x times” and are written as:  $a^x$
3. **Division**
4. **Multiplication**
5. **Addition**
6. **Subtraction**

Follow the instructions in order until there are no more calculations.

Each time you perform a calculation, swap out that part for your answer. For example:

$$1 + 8 \div 2$$

The first part to solve would be  $8 \div 2$ , since division comes before addition.

$$8 \div 2 = 4$$

Swap this part out in the original question:

$$1 + 8 \div 2 = 1 + 4$$

**Reminder:** Although a fraction is technically a division, the numerator and denominator should be viewed as being in a bracket, for example,  $\frac{3+2}{7-4} = (3+2) \div (7-4)$ .

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