



Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check 2023 Presentation for Parents, Carers & Guardians

Important information about multiplication tables check (MTC)

- The MTC determines if Year 4 children can **fluently** recall their multiplication tables.
- They are designed to help schools identify which children require more support to learn their times tables.
- There is no 'pass' rate or threshold which means that, unlike the Phonics Screening Check, children will not be expected to re-sit the check.
- The Department for Education (DfE) will create a report about the overall results across all schools in England, not individual schools.



When the check will take place?

- There will be a **3 week window** from **Monday 5th June to Friday 23rd June 2023** for schools to administer the check.
- There is **no set day** to administer the check and children are not expected to take the check at the same time.
- All eligible Year 4 children in England will be required to take the check.

 Shine like a Star 



How the check is carried out...

- The check will be **fully digital**.
- Answers will be entered using a keyboard, by pressing digits using a mouse or using an on-screen number pad.
- Usually, the check will take less than **5 minutes** for each child.
- The children will have **6 seconds** from the time the question appears to input their answer.
- There will be a total of **25 questions** with a **3 second pause** in-between questions.
- There will be **3 practice questions** before the check begins.



Let's have a go!

[Multiplication Tables Check - 2023 - Timestables.co.uk](https://www.timestables.co.uk)

The screenshot shows the main interface for the Multiplication Tables Check. At the top, a blue banner reads "Multiplication tables check". Below this, the heading "Multiplication tables check" is repeated. A large orange button labeled "Start" is the central focus. To the left of the button is a link for "Settings". Below the button, there is explanatory text: "You can change the difficulty by using more time or no time limit at all per question. After the test you can print the results." On the right side, a "Menu" sidebar lists various options: Home, Times tables games, Speed Test X, Times Tables diploma, Multiplication Tables Check (highlighted), Times tables grid, worksheets, and Trophy Cabinet.

Multiplication tables check

Multiplication tables check

[Settings](#)

You can change the difficulty by using more time or no time limit at all per question.
After the test you can print the results.

Menu

- ▶ Home
- ▶ Times tables games
- ▶ Speed Test X
- ▶ Times Tables diploma
- ▶ Multiplication Tables Check
- ▶ Times tables grid
- ▶ worksheets
- ▶ Trophy Cabinet



Specific arrangements for the check

Some children will be eligible for specific arrangements:

- Colour contrast;
- Font size adjustment;
- 'Next' button (alternative to 3-second pause);
- Removing on-screen number pad;
- An adult to input answers;
- Audio version;
- Audible time alert.

A decorative banner featuring the text "Shine like a Star" in a blue, sans-serif font. The text is surrounded by several colorful stars in shades of blue, yellow, and teal, some with a glowing effect. The banner is slightly curved and has a soft, ethereal glow.



The check questions

- Each child will be **randomly assigned** a set of questions
- There will only be **multiplication** questions in the check, not division facts.
- The 6, 7, 8, 9 and 12 times tables are **more likely** to be asked.
- Reversal of questions (e.g. 8×6 and 6×8) will not be asked in the same check.
- Children will not see their individual results when they complete the check.

 Shine like a Star 



More information about the questions

The Standards and Testing Agency (STA) state that they are classifying the multiplication tables by the first number in the question. For example, 8×3 would fall within the 8 times table.

5.2.1 Table 1 – Multiplication table limits in the MTC

Multiplication Table	Minimum number of items in each form	Maximum number of items in each form
1	Not applicable	Not applicable
2	0	2
3	1	3
4	1	3
5	1	3
6	2	4
7	2	4
8	2	4
9	2	4
10	0	2
11	1	3
12	2	4



Ways to support times table knowledge

- Count and look for patterns.
- Understand that multiplication is repeated addition.
- Remember that multiplication is commutative.
- Remember that multiplication is the inverse of division.
- Recall and utilise number families.

Use different representations to represent multiplication, such as:

- Concrete manipulatives such as multilink cubes or counters.
- Create pictorial representations such as arrays.

A decorative banner featuring the text "Shine like a Star" in a blue, cursive font. The text is surrounded by various colored stars (blue, yellow, and white) and small white dots. The banner is set against a white background.

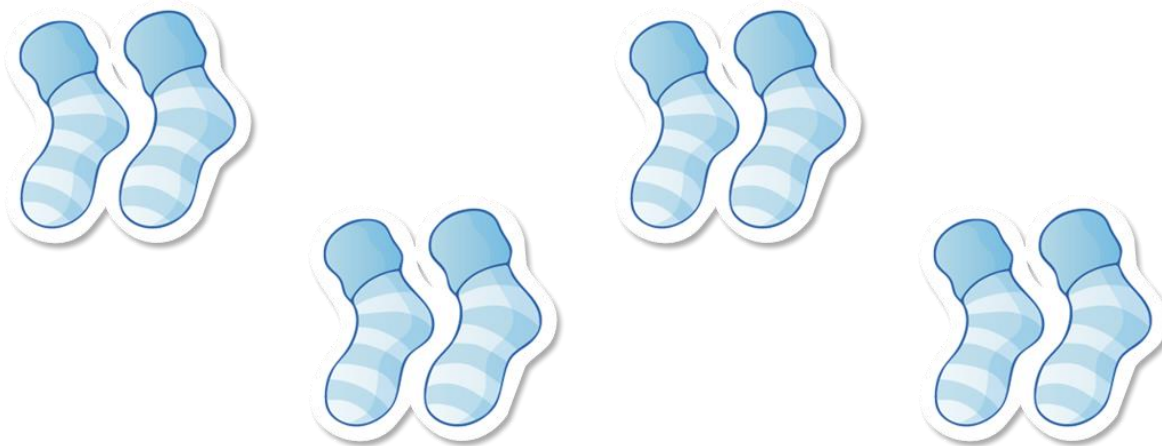


Counting and looking for patterns.

Example: Counting in 2s

2, 4, 6, 8, 10...

- Ensure children have a strong understanding of counting in groups first.
- When children are secure with counting, they can then look for patterns.

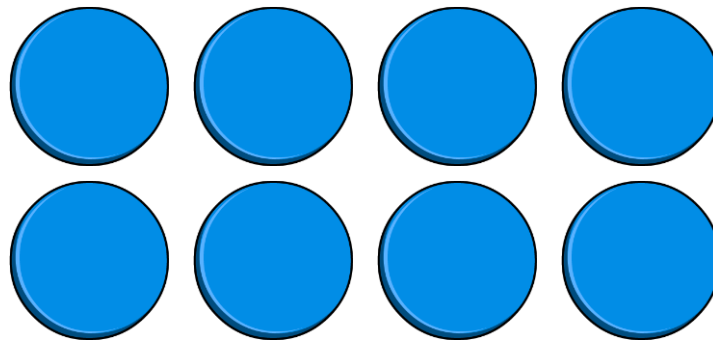


Repeated addition

Knowing that 2×4 is the same as $2 + 2 + 2 + 2$



$$2 + 2 + 2 + 2 = ?$$



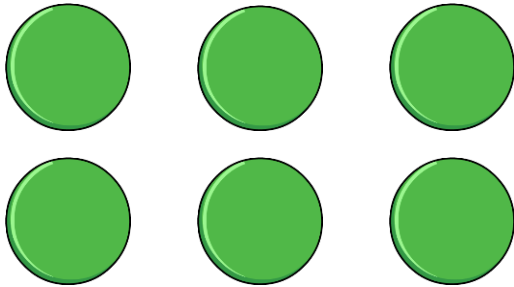
$$2 \times 4 = ?$$



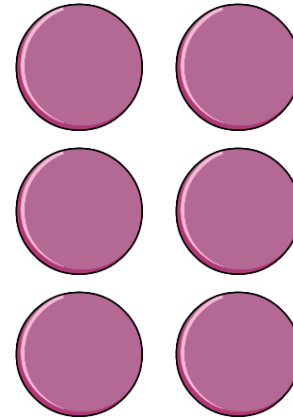
Multiplication is commutative

3×2 is the same as 2×3

Children need to understand that multiplication can be completed in any order to produce the same answer. Sometimes this link needs to be made explicit.



3 lots of 2 = 6



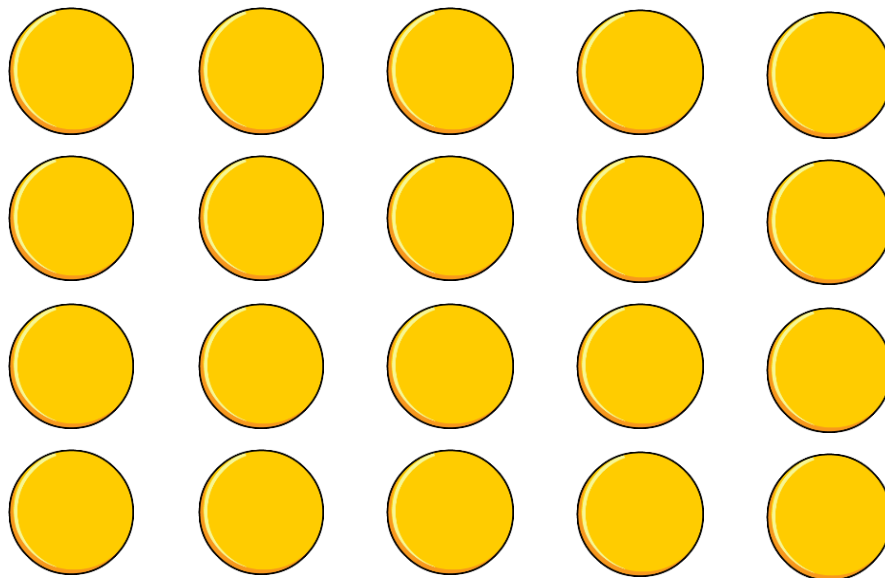
2 lots of 3 = 6



Multiplication is the inverse of division

$20 \div 5 = 4$ can be worked out because $5 \times 4 = 20$

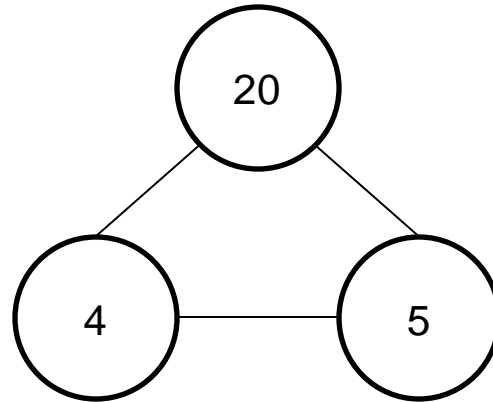
Using pictorial representations (such as arrays) is useful here for children to see the link between multiplication and division.



Number families

$$4 \times 5 = 20, 5 \times 4 = 20, 20 \div 5 = 4, 20 \div 4 = 5$$

Due to their commutative understanding, children should also be able to see whole number families. For many children this will need to be pointed out and discussed.



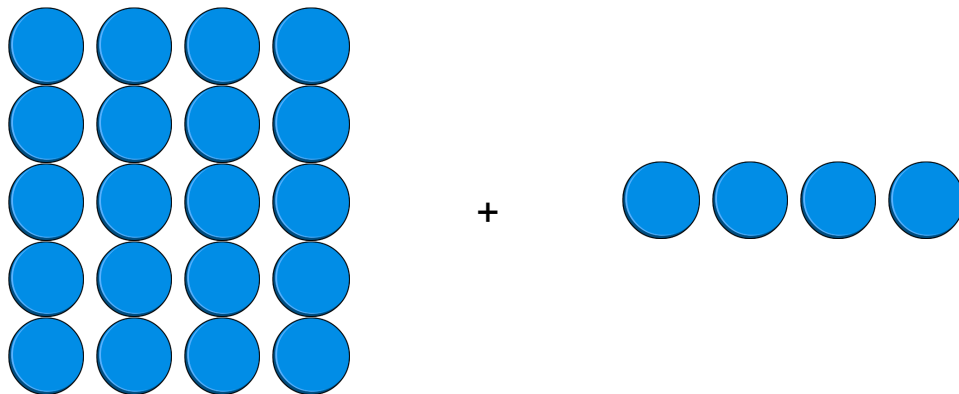
Using known facts

$$4 \times 6 = ?$$

I know $4 \times 5 = 20$

Therefore, $20 + 4 = 24$

By using known facts from 'easier' times tables, children should be able to find answers with increasing speed.



How best to prepare your child for the check

- Remind them that the check should last no more than **5 minutes**.
- If you want to go over times tables, make them fun.
- If you have any concerns, talk to your child's teacher.
- If your child has any concerns, encourage them to talk to a trusted adult (for example, yourself, their teacher).
- If you're looking to support your child further with maths at home, there are lots of good websites with free resources. Start with thirdspacelearning.com/blog/category/for-parents/ or register free for the Third Space Learning Maths Hub (mathshub.thirdspacelearning.com)



[Numeracy | Stow Heath Primary](https://www.stowheathprimaryschool.co.uk)
[\(stowheathprimaryschool.co.uk\)](https://www.stowheathprimaryschool.co.uk)

