

It's Not Magic—It's Math!



Often number tricks appear magical, but mathematics can usually explain why the tricks work.

Follow these instructions.

<p>Choose any two numbers from the following list: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9</p>
<p>Multiply either number by 5.</p>
<p>Add 3 to your answer.</p>
<p>Double the sum you just wrote.</p>
<p>Add to it, the other number you started with.</p>
<p>When I call on you, tell me your final number. I will immediately tell you your 2 original numbers.</p>

Use mathematics to show how and why this works.

Telephone Number



Often number tricks appear magical, but mathematics can usually explain why the tricks work.

Follow these instructions.

Key into your calculator the first three digits of your telephone number (NOT the area code).
Multiply by 80.
Add 1.
Multiply by 250.
Add the last 4 digits of your phone number.
Add the last 4 digits of your phone number again.
Subtract 250.
Divide the amount by 2.

Use mathematics to show how and why this works.

Secret Number Trick 1



Follow these instructions.

Write any two-digit <i>secret number</i> on your paper.
Double it.
Add 9.
Add your <i>secret number</i>.
Divide by 3.
Add 3.
Tell me what you have, and I will tell you your <i>secret number</i>.

Use mathematics to show how and why this works.

Secret Number Trick 2



Follow these instructions.

Write any <i>secret number</i> on your paper.
Add 3.
Multiply by 2.
Add 4.
Divide by 2.
Tell me what you have, and I will tell you your <i>secret number</i>.

Use mathematics to show how and why this works.

Secret Number Trick 3



Follow these instructions.

<p>Write any <i>secret number</i> on your paper.</p>
<p>Add the next larger number.</p>
<p>Add 7.</p>
<p>Divide by 2.</p>
<p>Tell me what you have, and I will tell you your <i>secret number</i>.</p>

Use mathematics to show how and why this works.

Secret Number Trick 4



Follow these instructions.

<p>Write any <i>secret number</i> on your paper.</p>
<p>Add 10.</p>
<p>Subtract 3.</p>
<p>Add 5.</p>
<p>Subtract 11.</p>
<p>Tell me what you have, and I will tell you your <i>secret number</i>.</p>

Use mathematics to show how and why this works.

Secret Number Trick 5



Follow these instructions.

Write any <i>secret number</i> on your paper.
Add the next larger number.
Subtract 1.
Multiply by 5.
Tell me what you have, and I will tell you your <i>secret number</i> .

Use mathematics to show how and why this works.

Secret Number Trick 6



Follow these instructions.

<p>Write any <i>secret number</i> on your paper.</p>
<p>Add the number on either side of it.</p>
<p>Tell me what you have, and I will tell you your <i>secret number</i>.</p>

Use mathematics to show how and why this works.