



ANCHOR CHART · GRADE 5 · 5.NBT.B.7

Dividing with Decimals

Three situations, one habit: put the decimal point in the answer **before** you divide.

1 Decimal ÷ Whole Number

$$\begin{array}{r} 2.4 \\ 3 \overline{) 7.2} \end{array}$$

point
straight
up ↑

$7 \div 3 \rightarrow 2$, remainder 1 · 12 tenths $\div 3 = 4$ tenths

Divide left to right, exactly like whole numbers - the point just rides **straight up**.

2 Add Zeros to Keep Going

$$\begin{array}{r} 5.75 \\ 4 \overline{) 23.00} \end{array}$$

$23 \div 4 = 5$ R3 $\rightarrow$ don't stop. 30 tenths $\div 4$, then 20 hundredths $\div 4$.

A remainder isn't the end - **zeros are free**. Keep dividing until it comes out even (or you round).

3 Dividing by a Decimal

$$9.1 \div 0.2 \rightarrow \text{shift both one place} \rightarrow 91 \div 2$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 45.5 \\ 2 \overline{) 91.0} \end{array}$$

You can't share among 0.2 of a person. Multiply **both** numbers by 10 until the divisor is whole - the quotient doesn't change.

4 Estimate to Check

$$7.2 \div 3 \approx 6 \div 3 = 2 \rightarrow 2.4 \checkmark$$

$$9.1 \div 0.2 \approx \text{"how many 0.2s in 9?"} \approx$$

$$45 \rightarrow 45.5 \checkmark$$

Dividing by a number **less than 1** gives a **bigger** answer - expect it, don't fear it.