

Truncation

When we **truncate** a number, we **round down** to a given degree of accuracy.

The word "**truncate**" means "**shorten**".



Examples

Truncate:

4.7392 to 2 decimal places

4.7392

This is the 2nd decimal place.

We **shorten** the number by **removing** all digits after the 2nd decimal place.

$4.7392 = 4.73$ (truncated to 2dp)

39.85 to 1 significant figure

39.85

This is the 1st significant figure.

We **shorten** the number by **removing** all digits after the 1st significant figure.

Remember that the 3 means "3 tens" so we **must place a zero** in the ones column to maintain the correct place value.

$39.85 = 30$ (truncated to 1sf)