Tens and Ones Mat

Put rods and units in their columns, then write how many of each.

Tens	Ones


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Hundreds, Tens and Ones Mat

Put flats, rods and units in their columns, then write how many of each.

Hundreds	Tens	Ones



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For Grown-Ups: How to Use These Mats

A few minutes at a time, with paper or plastic blocks, beans and bundles of straws.

Why use it

A mat gives every size of block its own column, in the order a number is written: hundreds, then tens, then ones. Your child sees that a column holds 0 to 9, and that ten in one column means a trade to the next.

What it is good for

- Page 1, tens and ones: first grade numbers to 99.
- Page 2, hundreds, tens and ones: second grade numbers to 999.
- Trading ten units for a rod when adding, and back when subtracting.

How to use it

1. Lay the mat flat. Page 2 prints sideways, so a flat fits its column.
2. Say a number. Your child puts rods in the Tens column and units in the Ones column.
3. Write how many of each on the line under each column, then read the number aloud.
4. Add units one at a time. When the Ones column has ten, trade them for a rod in the Tens column.
5. For a zero, leave the column empty and write 0 on its line, as in 306.

> **Try saying:** “How many rods? How many units? So the number is 4 tens and 6 ones, 46.”

Tip: No more than 9 can stay in a column. Ten in one column is always a trade.