

Steps to Add & Subtract Decimals

Step 1: Re-write the question and line up the numbers so that the largest number is on top. Place Value is very important so you must make sure the numbers are lined up in the proper place and that the decimals are all lined up under each other.

EX: $1.23 + 6.4 + 2.007$ would be re-written as follows

$$\begin{array}{r} 6.4 \\ + 2.007 \\ \hline 1.23 \end{array}$$

PLACE VALUE AND DECIMALS									
ten thousands	thousands	hundreds	tens	ones	and	tenths	hundredths	thousandths	ten-thousandths
				3	.	2	5		
		1	4	5	.	1	0	6	8
			2	4	.	0	7	9	

Step 2: Add 0's as place holders where necessary. This is especially important when subtracting decimals.

$$\begin{array}{r} 6.400 \leftarrow \text{Place Holders} \\ 2.007 \\ + 1.230 \leftarrow \text{Place Holders} \\ \hline \end{array}$$

Step 3: Add or subtract like you would whole numbers. Be sure to include the decimal in your answer.

$$\begin{array}{r} 6.400 \\ 2.007 \\ + 1.230 \\ \hline 9.637 \end{array}$$

Reminder from the videos: Line up the dot and give it all you got and if the decimal is not in sight, it's on the right.



