



Countdown — Free Sample

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HOW TO PLAY: COUNTDOWN

Reach the target number using arithmetic.

RULES

1. You are given a set of number cards and a target.
2. Combine the numbers using +, -, x, and / to reach the target exactly.
3. Each number card may be used at most once.
4. Intermediate results must be positive whole numbers.

TARGET: **327**

AVAILABLE NUMBERS:

25	50	75	2	3	7
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SOLUTION:

$$\begin{aligned}7 \times 50 &= 350 \\350 - 25 &= 325 \\325 + 2 &= 327 \text{ (target)}\end{aligned}$$

PRO TIP

Work backwards from the target. If the target is 327, think: what large numbers can I make with 50 and 75? Then adjust with the small numbers.

COMMON MISTAKES

- Using a number card more than once in a single equation.
- Forgetting you do not have to use all six numbers.

280**7****5****1****2****6****8**

136**10****1****8****7****2****5**

415**5****7****3****100****8****10**

536**6****10****8****100****50****1**



ANSWERS

Check Your Mastery!

#1**Target: 280**

$$7 \times 5 = 35$$

$$8 \times 35 = 280$$

#2**Target: 136**

$$10 + 7 = 17$$

$$8 \times 17 = 136$$

#3**Target: 415**

$$100 - 7 = 93$$

$$93 - 10 = 83$$

$$5 \times 83 = 415$$

#4**Target: 536**

$$6 + 10 = 16$$

$$50 + 1 = 51$$

$$16 + 51 = 67$$

$$8 \times 67 = 536$$



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