Introduction to Binary

The binary system is a way of representing data using 0s and 1s. This system is used by computers to represent all the data it works with.

Decimal System:

The number system we use in everyday life is called the decimal system, where we use the numbers 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9 to represent all of our numbers. In this system, each digit is a power of 10.

4	3	7	9
10^3 = 1000	10^2 = 100	10 ¹ = 10	10 ⁰ = 1
			Place value

To compute a number in this system, you would multiply the digit value by the place value, then add them all together. So to represent the number 4379, you would have to compute:

(4*1000)+(3*100)+(7*10)+(9*1)=4379.

The binary system follows a similar structure, except for each digit, you only have 2 values, 0 and 1.

Place value

To compute a number in this system, you would multiply the digit value by the place value, then add them all together. So to translate the binary number 1001, you would have to compute:

$$(1*8)+(0*4)+(0*2)+(1*1) = 9$$

To convert this number back to binary, find the largest power of 2 and subtract until your total is 0

$$9 - (1*2^3) = 9 - 8 = 1$$
 so 4th digit is 1
 $2^2 = 4 > 1$ so 3rd digit is 0
 $2^1 = 2 > 1$ so 2nd digit is 0
 $1 - (1*1^0) = 1 - 1 = 0$ so 1st digit is 1

So the resulting number is 1001.

Let's try a few!

Binary Practice Problems



Clue!

If the decimal value is odd, then the 1st digit must be a 1

$$2^{7}$$
 2^{6} 2^{5} 2^{4} 2^{3} 2^{2} 2^{1} 2^{0} 2^{1

Refer to this for help!

Convert the following decimal values into binary:

Binary Practice Problems

Digit value

Clue!

If the 1st digit is a 1, then the decimal value must be odd

$$2^{7}$$
 2^{6} 2^{5} 2^{4} 2^{3} 2^{2} 2^{1} 2^{0} 2^{1

Refer to this for help!

Convert the following binary values into decimal:

ANSWER KEY Binary Practice Problems

Digit value

Clue!

If the decimal value is odd, then the 1st digit must be a 1

$$2^{7}$$
 2^{6} 2^{5} 2^{4} 2^{3} 2^{2} 2^{1} 2^{0} 2^{1

Refer to this for help!

Convert the following decimal values into binary:

1) 8

0 0 0 0 1 0 0

2) 17

0 0 0 1 0 0 0 1

3) 11

0 0 0 0 1 0 1 1

4) 36

0 0 1 0 0 1 0 0

5) 70

0 1 0 0 0 1 1 0

6) 132

1 0 0 0 0 1 0 0

ANSWER KEY Binary Practice Problems

Digit value

Clue!

If the 1st digit is a 1, then the decimal value must be odd

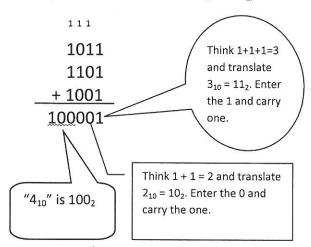
$$2^{7}$$
 2^{6} 2^{5} 2^{4} 2^{3} 2^{2} 2^{1} 2^{0} 2^{1

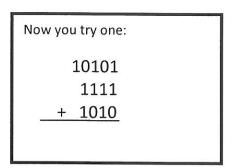
Refer to this for help!

Convert the following binary values into decimal:

Adding Binary Numbers

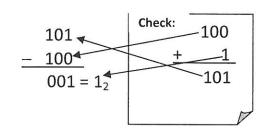
Example: Find the sum of 1011₂, 1101₂, and 1001₂.



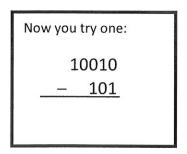


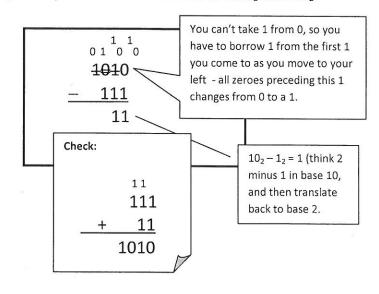
Subtracting Binary Numbers

Example 1: Find the difference between 101₂ and 100₂. Example 2: Find the difference of 1010₂ and 111₂.



Example 3: Here is another example where borrowing is necessary:





Rules of Binary Addition

- \bullet 0 + 0 = 0
- \bullet 0 + 1 = 1
- 1 + 0 = 1
- 1 + 1 = 0, and carry 1 to the next more significant bit

For example,

Note: The rules of binary addition (without carries) are the same as the truths of the **XOR** gate.

Rules of Binary Subtraction

- \bullet 0 0 = 0
- 0 1 = 1, and borrow 1 from the next more significant bit
- 1 0 = 1
- 1 1 = 0

For example,