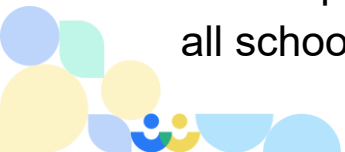




Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check 2026 Presentation for Parents, Carers & Guardians

Important information about multiplication tables check (MTC)

- The MTC determines if Year 4 children can **fluently** recall their multiplication tables.
- They are designed to help schools identify which children require more support to learn their times tables.
- There is no 'pass' rate or threshold which means that, unlike the Phonics Screening Check, children will not be expected to re-sit the check.
- Schools receive the mark out of 25 that each pupil receives. This is to help identify children in need of further support. Parents/carers will be informed of their child's score in their end-of-year report.
- The Department for Education (DfE) will create a report about the overall results across all schools in England, not individual schools.



When the check will take place

- There will be a **2 week window** from **Monday 1 June 2026** for schools to administer the check.
- There is **no set day** to administer the check and children are not expected to take the check at the same time.
- All eligible Year 4 children in England will be required to take the check.



How the check is carried out

- The check will be **fully digital**.
- Answers will be entered using a keyboard, by pressing digits using a mouse or using an on-screen number pad.
- Usually, the check will take less than **5 minutes** for each child.
- The children will have **6 seconds** from the time the question appears to input their answer.
- There will be a total of **25 questions** with a **3 second pause** in-between questions.
- There will be **3 practice questions** before the check begins.



Specific arrangements for the check

Some children will be eligible for specific arrangements:

- Colour contrast;
- Font size adjustment;
- 'Next' button (alternative to 3-second pause);
- Removing on-screen number pad;
- An adult to input answers;
- Audio version;
- Audible time alert.



The check questions

- Each child will be **randomly assigned** a set of questions
- There will only be **multiplication** questions in the check, not division facts.
- The 6, 7, 8, 9 and 12 times tables are **more likely** to be asked.
- Reversal of questions (e.g. 8×6 and 6×8) will not be asked in the same check.
- Children will not see their individual results when they complete the check.



More information about the questions

The Standards and Testing Agency (STA) state that they are classifying the multiplication tables by the first number (multiplier) in the question. For example, 8×3 would fall within the 8 times table.

5.2.1 Table 1 – Multiplication table limits in the MTC

Multiplication Table	Minimum number of items in each form	Maximum number of items in each form
1	Not applicable	Not applicable
2	0	2
3	1	3
4	1	3
5	1	3
6	2	4
7	2	4
8	2	4
9	2	4
10	0	2
11	1	3
12	2	4



Ways to support times table knowledge

- Count and look for patterns.
- Understand that multiplication is repeated addition.
- Remember that multiplication is commutative.
- Remember that multiplication is the inverse of division.
- Recall and utilise fact families.

Use different representations to represent multiplication, such as:

- Concrete manipulatives such as multilink cubes or counters.
- Create pictorial representations such as arrays.



Counting and looking for patterns

Example: Counting in 2s

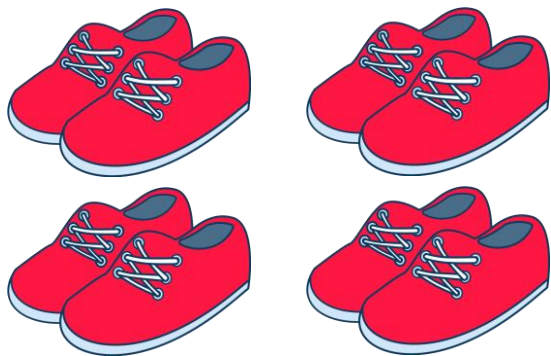
2, 4, 6, 8, 10...

- Ensure children have a strong understanding of counting in groups first.
- When children are secure with counting, they can then look for patterns.

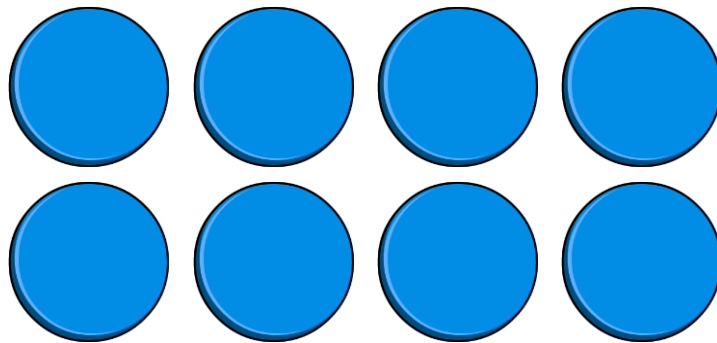


Repeated addition

Knowing that 2×4 is the same as $2 + 2 + 2 + 2$



$$2 + 2 + 2 + 2 = ?$$



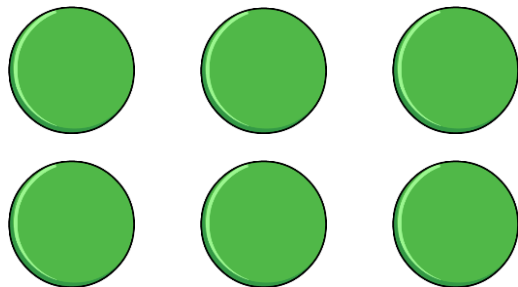
$$2 \times 4 = ?$$



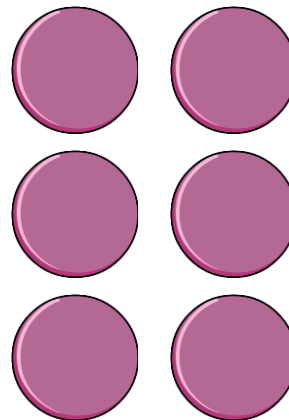
Multiplication is commutative

3×2 is the same as 2×3

Children need to understand that multiplication can be completed in any order to produce the same answer. Sometimes this link needs to be made explicit.



3 lots of 2 = 6



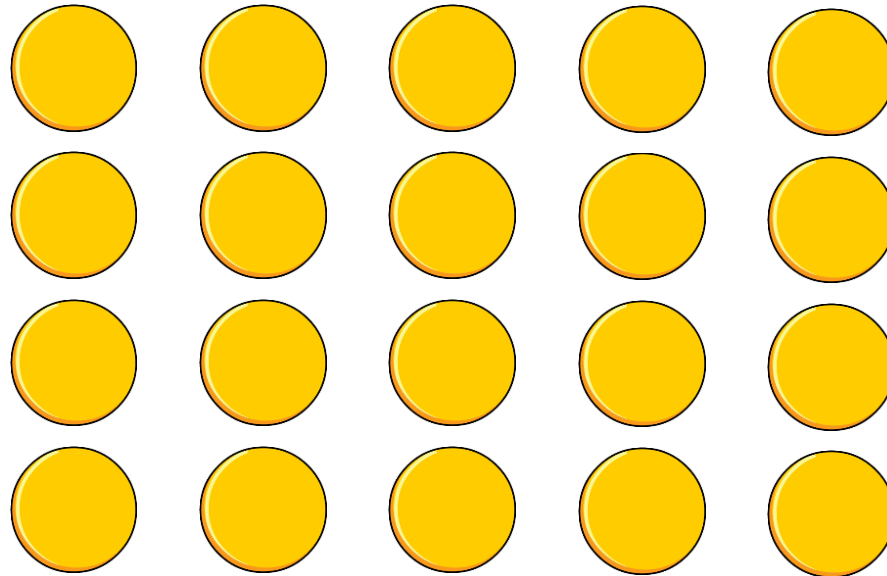
2 lots of 3 = 6



Multiplication is the inverse of division

$20 \div 5 = 4$ can be worked out because $5 \times 4 = 20$

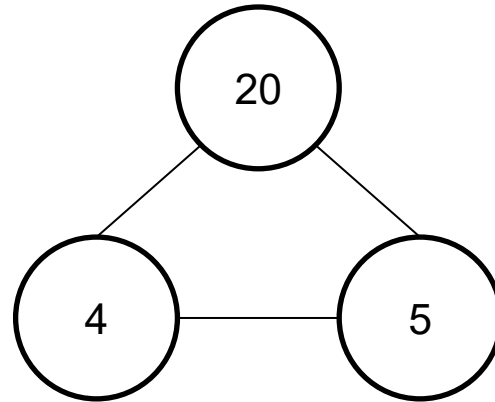
Using pictorial representations (such as arrays) is useful here for children to see the link between multiplication and division.



Fact families

$$4 \times 5 = 20, 5 \times 4 = 20, 20 \div 5 = 4, 20 \div 4 = 5$$

Due to their commutative understanding, children should also be able to see whole number families. For many children this will need to be pointed out and discussed.



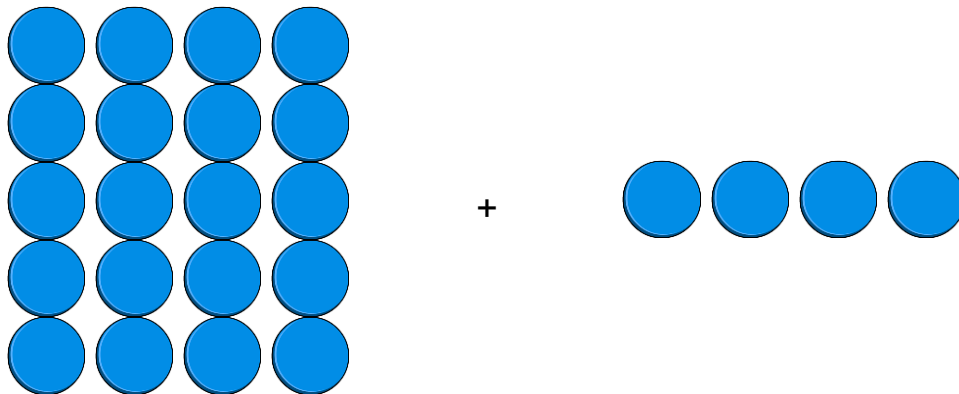
Using known facts

$$4 \times 6 = ?$$

I know $4 \times 5 = 20$

Therefore, $20 + 4 = 24$

By using known facts from 'easier' times tables, children should be able to find answers with increasing speed.



How best to prepare your child for the check

- Remind them that the check should last no more than 5 minutes.
- If you want to go over times tables, make them fun.
- If you have any concerns, talk to your child's teacher.
- If your child has any concerns, encourage them to talk to a trusted adult (for example, yourself, their teacher).
- Please encourage your child to practise on TT Rockstars for at least 5 minutes per day.
- Encourage your child to learn 'whole facts' i.e. $2 \times 4 = 8$, not just counting up in 2s – 2,4,6,8







SINGLE PLAYER

Game types explained



JAMMING

Take it easy



100 questions – 5 minutes

GIG

Perform once a month



GARAGE

Complete your heatmap



STUDIO

Get a rock status

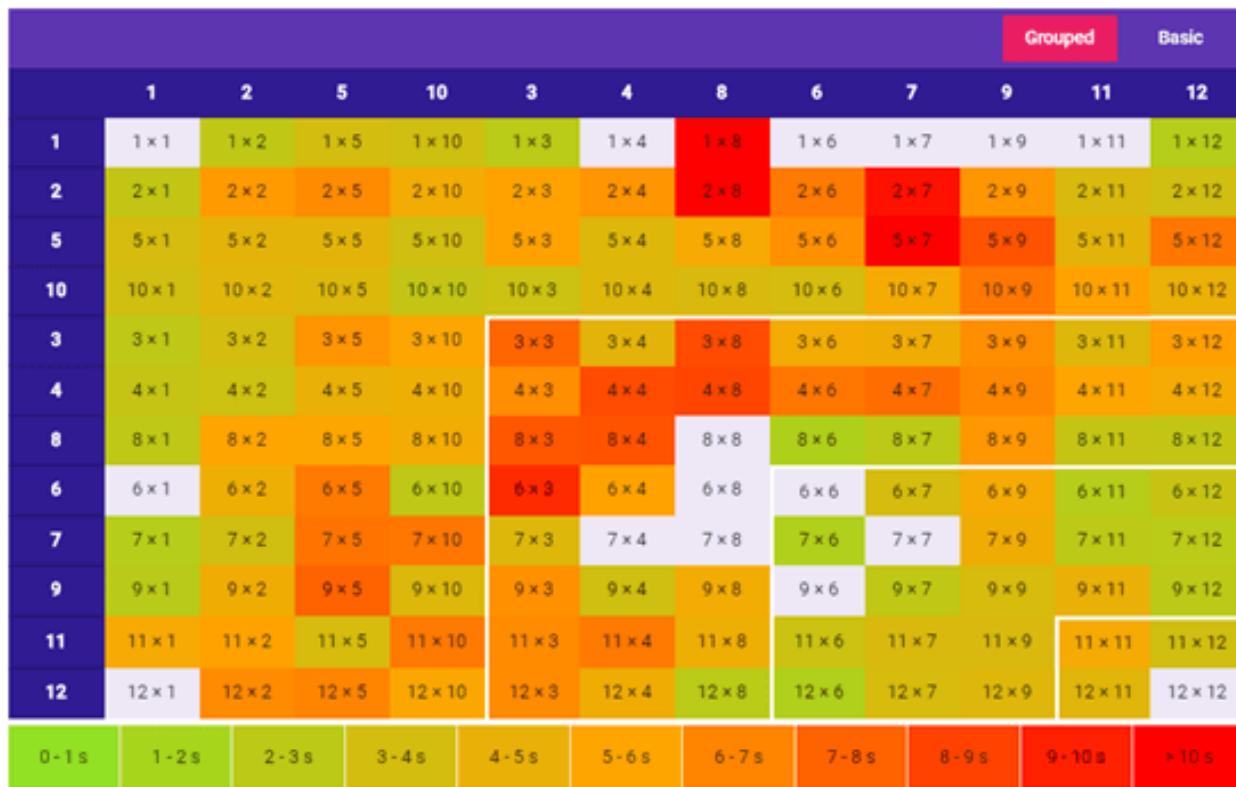


SOUNDCHECK

Practise for MTC

Top tip: The best mode for practice is 'Garage' mode. The more you play, the more TTRS will go over the facts you are less confident on.

Creating a benchmark: Gig
Personalised practice: Garage
Raising confidence: Jamming
Motivation: Studio, Festival, Rock Slam
Standardised test: Soundcheck
Classroom fun: Arena



On Garage mode, you can see your child's heatmap. This shows the facts that they are less confident in (shown in red), which can help you at home to target the facts that need the most work.

At school:

- At school, we will be doing regular practices on 'Soundcheck' mode on TTRS. This emulates the style of the MTC.
- We also practise the times tables in our weekly maths fluency session.
- At various points in the year, the children will do an 'unofficial MTC' on TT Rockstars. This allows them to get used to the MTC.
- In the summer, the children will have a practice go on the official website, before they take the MTC. This will help them be familiar with the style of the MTC.



Any questions?

