

Max's Magnificent Roman Numeral Guide

Master the Maths of the Ancient World with Max!

- The seven basic symbols you need to learn are: I = 1, V = 5, X = 10, L = 50, C = 100, D = 500, and M = 1000.
- When a smaller value appears before a larger one, you subtract it, like IV (4) or IX (9).
- When a smaller value appears after a larger one, you add it together, like VI (6) or XI (11).
- You can never repeat a symbol more than three times in a row. For example, 40 is written as XL, not XXXX.
- To write 1999, you break it down: 1000 (M) + 900 (CM) + 90 (XC) + 9 (IX) = MCMXCIX.

Did you know? Did you know? The Romans did not have a symbol for zero! Because they used their system primarily for counting objects and trade, they didn't feel they needed a number to represent 'nothing' at all.

Key vocabulary: Symbol · Value · Numeral · Addition · Subtraction · Ascending · Descending