

Adding decimals – line up the points

MODULE 2 · OPERATIONS AND COMPUTATIONAL FLUENCY NUMBER

When adding or subtracting decimals, **line up the decimal points** so tenths sit under tenths, hundredths under hundredths.

- $2.45 + 1.3 \rightarrow$ write 1.3 as 1.30, line up: $2.45 + 1.30 = 3.75$.
- $8.7 - 2.95 \rightarrow 8.70 - 2.95 = 5.75$.

ADDING 8.45 + 1.3

$$\begin{array}{r} 8.45 \\ + 1.30 \\ \hline 9.75 \end{array}$$

- 1 Write 1.3 with a zero so both numbers have the same decimal places: **1.30**.
- 2 Line up the decimal points and add column by column.
- 3 Answer: **9.75**.

TRY IT ON THE LINE

Write each decimal sum with the decimal points aligned. Fill any gap with a trailing zero, then add column by column.

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1. Rows 1+2: **4.7 + 0.85** (write $4.70 + 0.85$).
2. Rows 3+4: **0.3 + 0.27** (write $0.30 + 0.27$).
3. Rows 5+6: **1.05 + 2.345** (write $1.050 + 2.345$).
4. Rows 7+8: **9.99 + 0.01** (cascade regroup to the units column).

PRACTICE

- 1 Cian's class is raising money for new schoolbags for the book rental scheme. The boys' rota collected **€95.22** and the girls' rota collected **€31.91**. How much have they raised altogether?
- 2 5th class are running a sponsored walk around the GAA pitch to raise money for new jerseys. Their goal is **74.76 km** in total over the term, and so far they have walked **35.21 km**. How many kilometres do they still have to walk?

SPOT THE MISTAKE

Aoife works out $8.45 + 1.3$ like this:

$$\begin{array}{r} 8.45 \\ + 1.3 \\ \hline 8.58 \end{array}$$

Find Aoife's mistake. What's the correct answer?