

# Division

**There are three main reasons why people have difficulty doing division problems:**

1. **The student doesn't know the multiplication table.** Test this by giving the student a page of multiplication problems and see how many he or she gets wrong. If the student has problems remembering the multiplication table, let them use a multiplication chart. Repeated use of a multiplication chart helps a student to remember math facts.

If the student doesn't know the entire multiplication table, give the student a brief multiplication test at the start of every lesson. You can make these up yourself, focusing on the ones the student doesn't know and include some easier ones so the student doesn't get discouraged. You can also find multiplication worksheets online or get a bunch from our office.

2. **The student can't remember the division steps due to some memory difficulty.** Use the division tips handout with the GUMS acronym to help students remember the division steps. Only use it with a student who gets confused while doing a division problem and repeatedly doesn't remember when to subtract, multiply, etc. when dividing.
3. **The student simply needs a refresher on division,** picks it up quickly and does the work accurately once reminded how to do division problems.