

Year 4 Multiplication Tables check 2024



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.
- 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:

- Schools must administer the multiplication tables check within the 2-week period between 3 and 21 June 2024
- 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.



MTC practice check

A hyperlink to MTC practice check on [timestables.co.uk](https://www.timestables.co.uk)

The screenshot shows a digital math practice interface. At the top, a purple header bar contains the progress indicator '1/25' on the left and a 'Back' button with a left-pointing arrow on the right. Below the header, the text 'Time left: 5' is displayed in the top right corner. The main area of the screen features the math problem $6 \times 11 =$ on the left. To the right of the problem is a large, empty rectangular input box. Below the input box is a numeric keypad with four rows of buttons: the first row has '1', '2', and '3'; the second row has '4', '5', and '6'; the third row has '7', '8', and '9'; and the fourth row has 'C', '0', and 'Enter'. The interface is framed by a light gray border.



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.



Why are times tables so important?

- Supports mathematical learning, particularly aspects of number (long multiplication, short division).
- Supports other mathematical learning e.g calculation equivalent fractions, finding the area of a square/rectangle, finding fractions of amounts.
- It will help children calculate more fluently. (Children can then focus on the method needed to complete a reasoning problem rather than being distracted with struggling to work out the times table).
- Consequently, children will feel more positive/confident within maths.
- Children are expected to know their times tables by the end of Year 4 so that they can work confidently in years 5 and 6 and beyond into secondary school.



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).



How to best prepare your child for the check:

if you're looking to support your child further with maths at home, there are lots of good websites with free resources e.g.

- <https://urbrainy.com/mtc>
- <https://mathsframe.co.uk/en/resources/resource/477/Multiplication-Tables-Check>
- <https://www.timestables.co.uk/multiplication-tables-check/>
- https://talkingtimestables.uk/y4_ks2_mtc_practice_tests_multiplication_tables_check.php
- Continue to use TT Rockstars, in particular the Soundcheck section.



Thank you for your
continued support.

