

Commutative law – Knowing that I can swap the numbers around and it will not change the answer.

For example:

$$5 \times 7$$

Is the same as

$$7 \times 5$$

I can use my 5 times table to help me.

Nearby known facts – Using what you know and then going up or down the required multiple.

For example

$$6 \times 8$$

I know $5 \times 8 = 40$ so I can add on 8 more to get 6×8

Scale answers up by doubling – doubling the answer from a well-known times table to answer another.

For example:

$$\text{I know } 6 \times 2 = 12$$

$$\text{So I also know } 6 \times 4 = 24$$

Scale answers down by halving – Halving the answers from a well-known times table to answer another.

For example:

$$\text{I know } 4 \times 10 = 40$$

So I also know

$$4 \times 5 = 20$$

Partitioning— Breaking the number into manageable chunks, this is useful for multiplication involving numbers above 10.

For example:

$$\text{I know } 3 \times 10 = 30$$

$$3 \times 2 = 6$$

$$3 \times 12 = 36$$

Odd or even numbers – This helps us to spot an unexpected answer and allow us to check it.

Even x even = even

Even x odd = even

Odd x odd = odd

For example:

$$4 \times 6 = 24$$

If you got 23, this is unexpected as 23 is odd and both 4 and 6 are even.