

Rounding Numbers To Nearest Tens - The 5 Rule

The 5 rule for rounding numbers to nearest tens

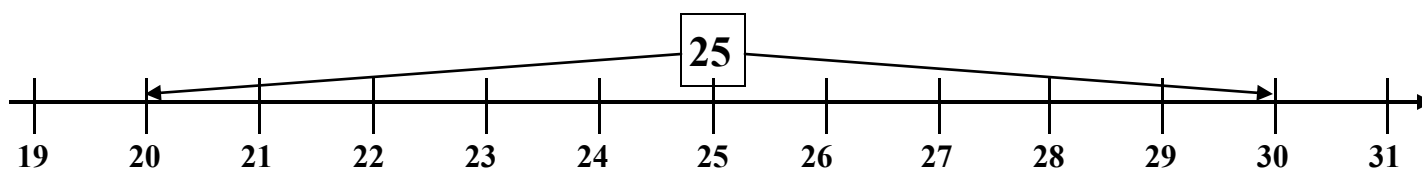
In previous lesson you learned how to round a number to nearest tens, using a number line. You also learned that what is rounding up or rounding down.

To decide the nearest tens, we pick the closer ten to the number. But, what if the given number is exactly between the ten down and ten up. These kinds of numbers have 5 on their ones place.

Let's discuss "*the 5 rule*" for rounding numbers to nearest tens. Again we'll use a number line to explain the concept.

Let's round 25 to nearest tens.

We draw the number line with numbers up to 30 or 31 and locate 25 on it, as shown below:



Look, 25 is exactly between both the nearby tens to it. In other words, 25 is at the same distance from 20 and 30. Now the question is should we round 25 down to 20, or round it up to 30 or not round it at all.

There is "*5 rule*" to solve this problem, which says, "when you want to round 5, always round it up." So, we'll round 25 up and the answer is 30.

Similarly, 15 will be rounded up to 20; 75 will be rounded up to 80 and 895 will be rounded up to 900 and you can try more numbers if you want.

Summary for rounding numbers to nearest tens:

1. If the ones digit is 4 or less we round the number down by keeping the tens digit and changing ones digit to zero. For example; if we want to round 63 to nearest tens, then we look at ones digit which is 3. So, round 63 down to make it 60.
2. If the ones digit is 5 or more then round it up by adding one to the tens digit and changing ones digit to zero. For example; consider we want to round 287 to nearest tens. Then the ones digit is 7 (which is more than 5) hence we add one to tens digit 8, and change ones digit 7 to zero. So our answer is 290 by rounding 287 up to nearest tens.
3. Remember the 5 rule, which is rounding up to nearest ten when the ones digit is 5. For example; 55 will be rounded up to 60. (remember 55 is exactly in the center of 50 and 60)