



The national curriculum specifies that pupils should be taught to recall the multiplication tables up to and including 12×12 by the end of year 4. As a result, all schools and academies in England are required to administer an online multiplication tables check (MTC) to year 4 pupils.

The purpose of the MTC is to determine whether pupils can recall their times tables fluently, which is essential for future success in mathematics. It will help schools to identify pupils who have not yet mastered their times tables, so that additional support can be provided.

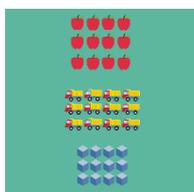
The MTC will be delivered on-screen (using a computer or tablet) and online (using an internet connection). No other equipment or resources are required. There are 25 times tables questions with three practice questions. When the questions start, the children have 6 seconds to answer each question. The system automatically accepts an answer after 6 seconds. The children can move on faster than 6 seconds by pressing the 'Enter' button. There is a 3-second pause between each question. The system will automatically score the MTC which will then be reported to the school.

The multiplication expectations by year group are as follows:

Expectations for times tables for each year group:	
Year 1	Count in multiples of 2, 5 and 10. Recall and use all doubles to 10 and corresponding halves.
Year 2	Recall and use multiplication and division facts for the 2, 5 and 10 multiplication tables, including recognising odd and even numbers.
Year 3	Recall and use multiplication and division facts for the 3, 4 and 8 multiplication tables.
Year 4	Recall and use multiplication and division facts for multiplication tables up to 12×12 .
Year 5	Revision of all times tables and division facts up to 12×12 .
Year 6	Revision of all times tables and division facts up to 12×12 .

As you can imagine, this is a very fast-paced test and some children may find it difficult to get used to the process. We will be constantly working through strategies with the children to help them with this but there is lots you can do at home to support them too.

1. Create a colourful times tables poster together.
2. On the spot test your child with random multiplication sums (this can be done anywhere but it is important to remember to do these out of order).
3. Practise times tables by rote (old-fashioned chanting of each multiplication table).
4. Use visual arrays to show multiplication sentences and help your child memorise times tables – incorporate household objects and sweets for fun!



5. Focus on related facts i.e. 'If I know that 2×6 is 12, what do I also know?
 $6 \times 2 = 12$ $12 \div 2 = 6$ and $12 \div 6 = 2$
6. Use apps and games to build up their speed and confidence. Times Tables Rockstars and Purple Mash are 2 platforms we use in school.
7. Sing times tables songs (there are songs online to play and learn). They are very catchy and you will find yourself singing them when you least expect it!