

HOW TO READ ROMAN NUMERALS

Roman numerals use letters to represent numbers.
Learn the symbols, the rules, and how to read them!

1. ROMAN NUMERAL REFERENCE CHART

SYMBOL	VALUE	HOW TO READ
I	1	One
V	5	Five
X	10	Ten
L	50	Fifty
C	100	One Hundred
D	500	Five Hundred
M	1,000	One Thousand

2. ADDITION & SUBTRACTION RULES

A ADDITION: Same or smaller value after a symbol
Add the values.

Examples:

$$VI = 5 + 1 = 6 \quad XV = 10 + 5 = 15 \quad LXX = 50 + 10 + 10 = 70$$

B SUBTRACTION: Smaller value before a larger value
Subtract the smaller from the larger.

Use only these subtraction pairs:

I before V (4)	I before X (9)	X before L (40)	X before C (90)	C before D (400)	C before M (900)
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Examples:

$$IV = 5 - 1 = 4 \quad IX = 10 - 1 = 9 \quad XL = 50 - 10 = 40 \\ XC = 100 - 10 = 90 \quad CD = 500 - 100 = 400 \quad CM = 1,000 - 100 = 900$$



TIPS: I, X, C, and M can repeat up to 3 times in a row. V, L, and D do not repeat.
Read from left to right, applying the rules.

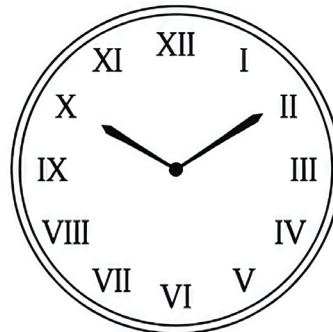
3. EXAMPLE DATES

Roman numerals are often used for dates.
Here are some examples:

	July 4, 1776	→ VII • IV • MDCCLXXVI
	January 1, 2000	→ I • I • MM
	May 25, 1963	→ V • XXV • MCMLXIII
	December 31, 1999	→ XII • XXXI • MCMXCIX
	June 6, 1944	→ VI • VI • MCMXLIV

4. CLOCK NUMERALS

Roman numerals are used on many clock faces.
The numbers 1 to 12 are written as:



1 = I	7 = VII
2 = II	8 = VIII
3 = III	9 = IX
4 = IV	10 = X
5 = V	11 = XI
6 = VI	12 = XII

5. QUIZ TIME! Test your knowledge.

A. Convert the following Roman numerals to Arabic numbers.

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| 1. IX = _____ | 4. DCCL = _____ |
| 2. XLVII = _____ | 5. CMXL = _____ |
| 3. CXX = _____ | 6. MCMIV = _____ |

B. Convert the following Arabic numbers to Roman numerals.

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|---------------|-----------------|
| 1. 14 = _____ | 4. 249 = _____ |
| 2. 39 = _____ | 5. 944 = _____ |
| 3. 68 = _____ | 6. 2024 = _____ |

